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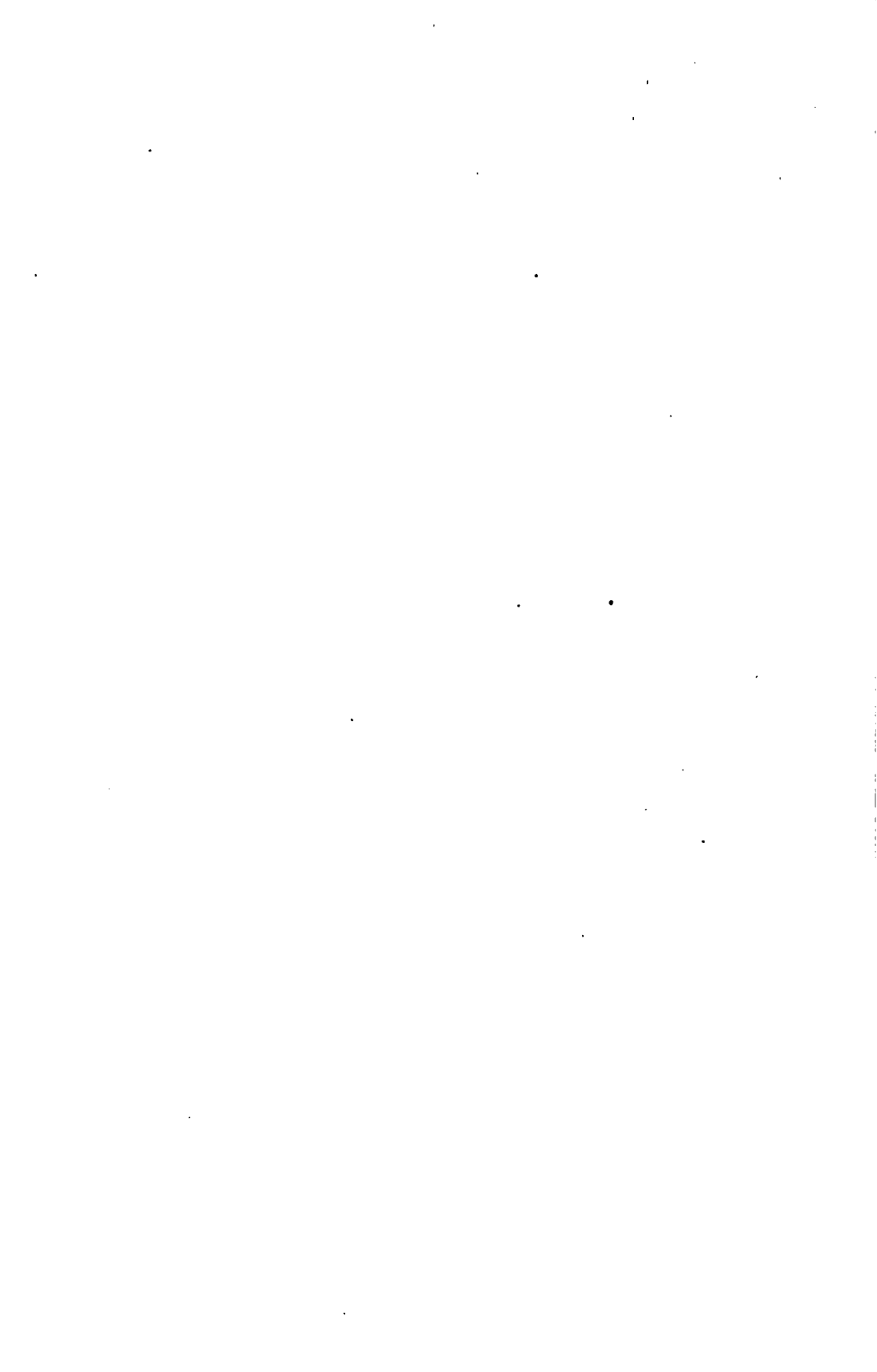
FOREST COMMISSION.

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STATE OF NEW YORK.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

7th Year (1893)

FOREST COMMISSION

FOR THE YEAR 1893.

VOL. I.

TRANSMITTED TO THE LEGISLATURE JANUARY 16, 1894.

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STATE OF NEW YORK.

No. 85.

IN SENATE,

JANUARY 16, 1894.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE FOREST COMMISSION.



ALBANY, *January 16, 1894.*

HON. WILLIAM F. SHEEHAN,

Lieutenant-Governor and President of the Senate:

Pursuant to chapter 332, Laws of 1893, we have the honor to present herewith a part of our annual report, and would ask permission to supplement the same with a further communication at an early date.

Yours very respectfully.

FRANCIS G. BABCOCK,
SAMUEL J. TILDEN,
CLARKSON C. SCHUYLER,
NATHAN STRAUS,
WILLIAM R. WEED,

Commissioners.

The Forest Commission.

ANNUAL REPORT.

To the Legislature :

This department is directed by law to include in its annual report to your honorable body such recommendations of further legislative action as it may deem proper. In view of the mandatory nature of this requirement we would recommend certain measures for your consideration, prefacing them with what seem to us good and sufficient reasons for their introduction.

First of all, the department would again urge the importance and necessity of providing means for an extensive purchase of lands within the Adirondack and Catskill forests. While we firmly believe in the utmost propriety and expediency of such a measure, we are further emboldened by the unanimous and plainly expressed opinion of the people and press throughout the State. Wherever the opportunity has occurred they have been outspoken in their demands that the State shall no longer delay action in securing and protecting its heritage of forest wealth.

This Commission receives, through a press intelligence agency, newspaper clippings containing every item in the public press referring to forests and forestry. It has been a matter of frequent comment by the readers of these clippings that from the inception of the forestry movement in this State not one newspaper has published a line objecting to the oft-repeated and much discussed proposal that the State should acquire its forests by purchase, and take possession of them. As to

how far the press represents the wishes of our people in this matter you should be well able to judge. Furthermore, in our constant intercourse and discussion with the people on this subject, we find them surprisingly unanimous in the opinion that the State should make the necessary appropriations for this purpose, large though they may be, and this expression is most pronounced in our large cities, where the mass of our taxpayers are located, and on whom the cost of the enterprise would mainly fall. In short, in urging this measure upon your attention we feel that we not only represent the interests of the State, but that we represent the people as well, and that we are fairly voicing their ideas and wishes.

The public interests involved in this question are so vast and important that the proposed measure is entitled to your earnest consideration: On the preservation of our forests depends the water supply of our rivers and canals; the motive power of great manufacturing interests; the priceless benefits offered by our forest sanitariums; the many delightful places of refuge from the summer heat of cities; and the existence of our fish and game. But, above all, on their preservation depends that great factor in our political economy, our future timber supply.

We do not consider it necessary to amplify these points by way of explanation. This department in its former reports has repeatedly gone over the subject, fully and in detail, while for years the newspapers in their editorials have dwelt upon each topic. We assume that you are already familiar with the more important points in the literature pertaining to this question.

The Great Forest of Northern New York covers an area of 3,588,803 acres. The Adirondack Park, or proposed reservation, includes 2,807,760 acres. The lands within the park line

have been carefully classified, lot by lot, with the following result:

	Acres.
Primeval forest	1,575,483
Lumbered forest*	1,027,955
Denuded	50,050
Burned	13,430
Waste	18,526
Water	57,104
Wild meadows	495
Improved	64,717
	<hr/>
	2,807,760
	<hr/>

The difference in area, 781,043 acres, between the entire forest and that of the proposed reservation represents scattered or isolated tracts of woodland which could not well be included within the park line. Some of these were remote tracts, far from the main forest, and surrounded either by farming lands or by bare, sterile plains; while others, though contiguous in spots, form irregular spurs projecting into the agricultural districts. These tracts are the ones most exposed to fire and petty depredations; and although the Commission will, as hitherto, do all in its power to protect these lands, it was not deemed advisable to run irregular boundary lines along the extreme edge of the forest in order to include them. An exception, however, was made in this respect on the Hudson watershed, where, for considerable distance, the line was pushed out to the extreme verge of forest cover.

The State owns 731,459 acres in the Adirondack forest, of which 551,093 acres are situated within the lines of the reservation.

* Forests in which lumbering occupations have been carried on, but from which the spruce and hemlock only have been removed, leaving a hardwood forest interspersed with young conifers. On some of these tracts the smaller spruces left by the lumbermen have grown in size until they are large enough for a second cutting.

THE ADIRONDACK PRESERVE.

Number of acres January 1, 1894.

County.	Adirondack Park.	Outside.	Total.
Essex	166,609	24,402	191,011
Hamilton	274,018	.....	274,018
Warren	40,929	21,115	62,044
St. Lawrence.....	29,466	1,798	31,264
Franklin	25,460	65,062	90,522
Herkimer	14,611	6,098	20,709
Clinton .....	.....	18,076	18,076
Fulton .....	.....	21,783	21,783
Lewis .....	.....	5,243	5,243
Oneida .....	.....	4,593	4,593
Saratoga.....	.....	10,957	10,957
Washington.....	.....	1,239	1,239
	<u>551,093</u>	<u>180,366</u>	<u>*731,459</u>

It is not proposed that the State shall buy the entire remaining area. It would not be necessary. By the sale of lands outside the main Adirondack forest, and reinvestment of the proceeds in the interior, it is expected that the State ownership within the Park can soon be increased to 900,000 acres or more. Furthermore, it is not proposed to buy the improved lands within the lines, of which there are 64,717 acres. It would not be necessary to disturb the farmers who occupy these lands. Any system of forestry which would produce a revenue from the State lands would require a resident population to supply the necessary labor. If any of these farms should be abandoned, or offered for sale at woodland prices, they should be purchased and held for reforestation. The sterile soil of the Adirondack Plateau is worthless for agricultural work; the forest is the only crop that can be harvested from it with profit. It will produce a continuous yield of black spruce, without care

*Acquired prior to tax sale of 1890	676,738
Acquired at sale of 1890	54,721
	<u>731,459</u>

or expense; it will not produce cereals except at a loss. There are a few farms within the reservation on which fair crops are raised; but the patient toil expended on them would have been far more remunerative if expended in any other pursuit. The territory contains numerous deserted farms which the owners were compelled to leave after a hopeless struggle with increasing poverty; but not until the fallow fires started in their misdirected efforts had destroyed large areas of valuable timber.

Neither is it necessary to purchase the hotel property and lands necessary to the continuance of such business; nor the water fronts and high-priced property held for summer residents. These interests are dependent upon forest preservation. The owners of such property will not injure any woodlands.

In providing for its future timber supply and revenues, the State must also protect the sanitarium and summer resort of its citizens. But the State cannot go into the hotel business, and so the purchase of such property is not advisable; especially, as it is small in area, high in price, and in no way antagonistic to forest preservation.

There are villages, also, which cannot be included in any scheme of purchase. Within the lines of the proposed reservation are the villages of Saranac Lake, Wellstown, Indian Lake, Newcomb, and Tupper Lake; and the smaller hamlets of Sageville, Long Lake, North Elba, Lake Placid, Morehouseville, and Benson. There is a population within the lines of 6,167, not including summer residents or inmates of the winter logging camps. In estimating the area to be purchased, deduction should be made, also, for the 57,104 acres of water surface.

The large territory owned by private clubs should also be taken into consideration. These private preserves contain, in the aggregate, about 940,000 acres, and as their interests are wholly dependent on forest preservation it would be unnecessary to raise money at present to purchase that area. If,

however, the acquisition of their lands should be deemed advisable, their purchase could be deferred, at least, until the remainder of the territory shall have been acquired. One of these private corporations, that of the Adirondack League Club, covering 116,000 acres, has offered through a member of its executive committee to enter into a contract as provided by the law of 1892, in which the State grants exemption from taxes provided the land owner will agree to restrict all timber cutting to certain species and to a minimum diameter of twelve inches on the stump.

This particular and excellent plan for placing forest tracts under State control has already been brought to your attention in the annual message of Governor Flower. What we ask for now is the purchase of a class of lands which, by reason of their having been cut over or of the determination of their owners to commence operations on them, could not be included in the plan devised by the Governor and already provided for in the present law.

It will thus appear, after deducting the amount already owned by the State, and the area obtainable through the sale of outside tracts, together with the area of improved lands, water surface and private reserves, that the remaining area to be acquired by purchase will be not far from 1,200,000 acres.

And now arises the important and pertinent question: What will it cost? How much money must be appropriated to purchase this area of 1,200,000 acres; or, if not purchased outright, to acquire control of it? This question can not be answered accurately. The assessed valuation of this territory (the private preserves having been deducted) is about \$1,500,000. But this sum bears no fixed proportion to the market value of the land, owing to the wide difference in the ratio of valuation used by the assessors in the various

towns. In some towns the lands are assessed at nearly their full value, coupled with a low tax rate, while in other towns this method is reversed.

An estimate of the cost can be arrived at only by a classification of the lands based on their merchantable timber, together with the prices obtained for such lands during the past two years.

As stated before, the proposed reservation contains 1,027,955 acres of lumbered forest, very little of which is included in the club lands and private preserves. Of this amount 350,000 acres are already owned by the State. The 1,200,000 acres to be purchased may then be classified approximately as—

	Acres.
Lumbered forest	677,955
Primeval forest	522,045

The price of lumbered lands, or lots that have been cut over, is fairly well established at one dollar and fifty cents per acre. The Forest Commission has had no difficulty whatever in making its previous purchase, at that rate. In fact, much more land was offered at that price than could be accepted under the limited appropriations made for the purpose, and large amounts are still tendered at that figure. But if the State persists in delaying its purchase until the small growing spruces attain a size which will warrant a second cutting, it will be impossible to secure these tracts at any such rate. If the State buys these lumbered lands now, they can be obtained for one dollar and fifty cents per acre. A few more years of delay and a higher price must be paid, independent of any rise in the market value of the acreage.

Lands that have not been lumbered or cut over—the so-called virgin forests—are worth from \$3 to \$8 per acre, according to their accessibility or the amount of standing mer-

chantable timber—spruce, pine or hemlock—which they contain. A sale was recently made at \$10 per acre, but this price was due to an unusually fine cut of wood pulp which was obtainable, in addition to the sawing timber, and was an exceptional case. Adirondack timber lands (uncut) yield on an average 3,000 feet of logs to the acre, worth \$1.50 cents per thousand feet on the stump. This would indicate an average price of \$4.50 per acre for the uncut forests. This price, however, would be enhanced by delay or by injudicious methods in buying.

In view of these facts, we feel warranted in assuming that the acquisition of the 1,200,000 acres necessary to the preservation of the forests within the proposed reservation may be acquired by an expenditure based on the following estimate:

377,955 acres lumbered at \$1 50.....	\$566,932 00
300,000 acres lumbered at \$2 00.....	600,000 00
522,045 acres uncut at \$4 50.....	2,349,202 00
Total.....	<u>\$3,516,134 00</u>

It must be remembered that in placing the price of the uncut lands at \$4.50 per acre we mean that it is an average, not a regular, market price. We are well aware that some townships are held, and that sales have been recently made, at a much higher figure. But on the other hand, sales have been recently made, and tracts are being offered, at a much lower price.

There is one way in which this best class of forest land might be obtained in fee and placed under State control without so large an expenditure in purchase money. We refer to the plan contemplated and authorized in Section 121, Chapter 332, Laws of 1893, which reads as follows:

“The Forest Commission shall have power to contract for the purchase of lands situated within the bounds of the park; if any such lands cannot be purchased on advantageous terms,

unless subject to leases or restrictions or the right to remove soft wood timber, the contract may provide accordingly; but not for any such right, lease or restriction after ten years from the date of the contract, nor for the right to remove any such trees with a diameter of less than twelve inches at a height of three feet from the ground."

Stripped of its verbiage, this section means that if the State will not vote the money to buy outright it can offer a lumberman \$1.50 per acre or thereabouts for first-class forest land, and give him the right to remove the pine, spruce, and hemlock within ten years, the axemen being restricted to the larger trees. At the end of ten years, or less, the State would acquire absolute possession, the forest then consisting of hardwood trees, and the young evergreens which could not be cut, owing to the restriction as to size. Such a forest would show no diminution in foliage, would still perform its functions in protecting our water supply, while the young conifers which were left would in time furnish another crop of timber and a future revenue to the State.

After careful and extended inquiries we feel warranted in assuming that a large proportion of the primitive forest, outside the club lands, could be purchased under this provision at one dollar and fifty cents per acre. The lumbermen who own most of this kind of forest land, value their property at the stumpage price of the merchantable timber and nothing more. When this kind of timber is removed they consider the remaining forest as worthless, because the taxation continues while the land is no longer remunerative. Another cutting of spruce might be obtained after twenty-five* years, but in the meantime there would be twenty-five years' taxes to be paid. Where such tracts contain lakes with pleasant water fronts, available

* The Adirondack spruce is a tree of rapid growth, possessing the remarkable and valuable peculiarity of reproducing itself without care or expense. It forms about five per cent of the Adirondack forests.

for cottage sites, they would of course be excepted. But the forestry plan contemplated by your Commission does not include any summer hotel, cottage, or real estate business, unless it be the leasing of such available sites as the State now happens to own. In case a tract included a lake which would command a high price for cottage or hotel sites, a strip of land around the lake could be excepted, and the land in the rear purchased. The policy of the Commission aims at forest preservation, not the acquisition of lake fronts and scenery. Having obtained forest control, the esthetic advantages, which have hitherto entered into this matter to the exclusion of the main question of future timber supply and State revenues, will be incidentally obtained, and that, too, without further expense or care.

It is believed that the lumbermen will readily enter into such a contract, owing to the clause in the law permitting the sale of matured spruce on State lands. The lumbermen have for years viewed the forestry movement with apprehension, because they feared that if the State acquired entire possession of the Adirondack Forest their supply of timber would be cut off, and they would be left with their mills and other parts of their expensive plant turned into idle and worthless property. Nor were their apprehensions groundless, in view of the ill-considered talk which at one time was so prominent a feature of our forestry conventions. The lumbermen want and must have logs for their mills; the people want the lumber sawed from these logs. But the lumberman is obliged to tie up a large amount of capital in timber land to ensure his supply of logs. If he can turn his lands into cash and at the same time secure some timber from these lands, without injury to the forest, he would be willing to do so; and such an arrangement would still be advantageous to both the State and the land owner.

The State, through the provisions of the contract could control the timber cutting; and in time, would come into absolute possession of the forest. The lumberman would be able to obtain his supply of logs, but under restrictions which would ensure forest preservation and a future timber supply.

We believe, however, that it would be better if the State would meet this question boldly and squarely at the start and buy the land outright, thereby securing for itself the revenues which otherwise must go to the land owners. But, if the State will not do this, then the next best thing would be a purchase in which the land owner is allowed to remove the spruce or other soft woods as specified in the law. The latter plan has one favorable feature in this, that, even after a contract had been made, the State would still have the opportunity at any subsequent time of purchasing the timber right thus granted, and so by some further and subsequent payment come into absolute possession of the land. Some such stipulation at a stated price per acre for the lands not cut over would be a wise provision in the contract.

Although purchases made under a reserved timber right would greatly lessen the amount of the appropriation necessary for the acquisition of the Park area, the plan could not be relied on entirely for such purpose; for that would imply the cutting over of the entire territory within the term specified in the contracts, an undesirable result. The plan could be used only to a partial extent, even were it possible to secure the entire area of first-class forest on such conditions, a consummation which is not at all probable.

In view of the important interests and economic conditions dependent on this question there should be no hesitation in making provision for this purchase, large though it may be. The amount called for is in no way disproportionate to the size, wealth, and dignity of the commonwealth. A State that can expend

twenty million dollars on one building can well afford to invest one-fifth of that sum in the preservation of its forests, the protection of its inland navigation, and in providing for its future timber supply. The purchase of Niagara Falls was based solely on esthetic considerations; the same reasons enter into this question to an equal extent, with the additional one of the sanitary benefits afforded by our forests upon which many of our people are dependent for life itself.

Six hundred thousand dollars was voted promptly for the transient, ephemeral benefits of a summer season at a World's Fair; but not a cent for the permanent, paying investment and lasting benefit of forest purchase.

We are well aware that any measure tending to increase the tax rate is always regarded unfavorably. Its consideration is taken up with extreme reluctance. But it should be remembered that the State is out of debt; that it can well afford to make this investment—an investment, let it be understood, not an expenditure; that owing to the provision for a bonded debt, distributing the payment of the purchase money through a term of years, the increase of the tax rate for any one year would be so slight as to be almost inappreciable; that the interest on these bonds, together with some of the principal can, beyond all question, be paid from the revenues which the lands will yield from the sale of matured timber; and that the people of our cities, upon whom the bulk of the taxation would fall, are unanimous in their demand for favorable action on this measure.

Reference has been made here to the revenues obtainable from the Preserve, and their availability for the payment of interest on the bonds. We should state right here that the possibility of obtaining large revenues from the State forest without injury to the same is no longer a theory but a fixed fact. This has been demonstrated by the offers made to this Department to purchase spruce trees, twelve inches and upwards, on lands which had

been cut over twenty to twenty-five years ago. One-third of the Adirondack wilderness is a "lumbered" forest, in which lumbering operations have been carried on in the past, but which to-day retains, uninjured and unimpaired, all its functions as a protective forest and shows no diminution in the quantity of its timber or foliage. It will readily appear that if the State should acquire the virgin forest, also, there would be, not only an increased area of productive lands, but an increased revenue per acre.

As previously remarked, you are not asked to make an expenditure, but an investment—an interest-bearing, revenue-producing investment. This all important distinction must not be lost sight of for one moment in considering this question. It is strictly an investment, one convertible into cash at any time; for the lands can always be sold for what they cost. Its safety and desirability is evident from the favor with which it has been regarded by capitalists, some of whom have not hesitated to invest hundreds of thousands in this very property. The sure revenues derivable are clearly apparent in the management of the Adirondack League Club, whose returns are derived without injury to their forest or diminution of its area. If some State Comptroller were to deposit four millions of his funds in banks, on interest, and at the same time secure to the people additional benefits of incalculable value, his action would be applauded. We ask no more at your hands in urging this measure.

In making this oft-repeated proposal for the acquisition of the Adirondack forest we fully realize the momentous character of the legislation involved. But, we also feel that in doing less we should fall short of our duty to the State, and neglectful of the interests intrusted to our care. Further delay in securing this territory will only result in further diminution of our forest area, together with enhanced prices for the remainder. Such results must surely engender severe criticism in the future. We can only put ourselves on record and await the result.

In presenting this matter for your consideration we desire also to call your attention to the necessity for some action in regard to the Catskill forest. The discussion of the forestry question in this State has hitherto been confined to the Adirondack wilderness, to the utter exclusion of the interests of the Catskill Preserve. The wooded area of the latter region is in size fully three-fifths that of the Adirondack, there being over 2,000,000 acres of forest lands in Ulster, Delaware, and Sullivan counties. Within this territory the State owns 49,332 acres, principally in Ulster county, in the towns of Denning and Hardenburgh. These holdings are in scattered lots, and should be made a solid tract by the purchase of additional lands, in order that they can be brought under some systematic management. While it is not deemed advisable just now to advocate extensive purchases there, we believe that it would be well to acquire 100,000 acres in the immediate vicinity of the lands mentioned. The same reasons that have been so often urged in connection with the proposed Adirondack purchase apply fairly in this case. Within the Catskill Mountain range are large streams which flow to the Mohawk and the Hudson, while by reason of its nearness to the populous cities of eastern New York its summer population far exceeds that of the Adirondacks. There are thousands in our cities who through lack of means are unable to reach the more remote and expensive resorts, but who can find here a welcome and satisfactory summer home. Their wants must also be considered, and their claims must not be ignored. We ask that this matter also receive careful and favorable attention at your hands.

In pursuance, therefore, of the law requiring us to recommend such legislation as we might deem necessary to the welfare of the property in our charge we present the following bill, respectfully bespeaking for it the same earnest and conscientious consideration which it has already received from us.





S. R. Broddard, Photo.

BRIDLE PATH UP SLIDE MOUNTAIN.
State Forest, Catskill Preserve.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE PURCHASE OF LANDS WITHIN THE FOREST PRESERVE.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. To provide for the expense to be occasioned in carrying into effect the provisions of section 121, chapter 332, Laws of 1893, the comptroller is hereby authorized and directed to issue the bonds of the State to the amount in the aggregate of one million dollars, bearing interest at a rate to be fixed by the comptroller not exceeding four per centum per annum. Said bonds shall bear date as of June first, eighteen hundred and ninety-four, and shall be for one thousand dollars each, numbered consecutively from one to one thousand, if so many shall be issued, with interest payable semi-annually from the date of their issue, one-tenth of which bonds in the order of their number, together with interest on all bonds unpaid, shall be paid annually after ten years from the date of issue shall have elapsed. Said bonds shall be sold by the Comptroller, as fast as needed, for the best prices which he can obtain, at not less than par, and the proceeds thereof shall be applied, except as hereinafter provided, for the purchase of land within the boundaries of the Adirondack Park.

§ 2. The Forest Commission shall, with the concurrence and approval of the Commissioners of the Land Office, have power to contract for the purchase of forest land situated within the counties of Greene, Ulster, Delaware, and Sullivan, at a price not exceeding one dollar and fifty cents per acre, and in amount not to exceed sixty thousand acres, the same to be paid for by the Comptroller from the fund established in this act.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

The use of the word "park" in connection with the Adirondack Reservation seems to have caused a misapprehension in the minds of some, who, accepting the word in its literal or common meaning, have labored under an impression that expenditures were to be made in making driveways, underbrushing the trees, and in improving the scenery. Acting under this error, the ill-natured criticism has been made that the park was for the rich only, and that the expenditure would be for their benefit solely.

It may be well to say here that the word "park" is used in the same sense as in the Yosemite or Yellowstone Parks and in other national forest reservations. The word "preserve" was not available, for we already have a forest preserve, established by law, and which differs in area and situation from the Adirondack Park. This forest preserve is divided, for convenient reference, into the Adirondack Preserve and Catskill Preserve. The Adirondack Park, although situated within the Adirondack region, is not identical with the Adirondack Preserve. Neither was the word "reservation" desirable, owing to the numerous Indian grants which are thus designated, one of which—the St. Regis Reservation—is located in Northern New York.

To lessen further misunderstanding, we would say that the Adirondack Park is open to all, the poor as well as the rich. All are welcome. Any one may pitch his tent anywhere on State land without let or hindrance, and occupy it without rental or price. Furthermore, all appropriations granted will be expended for business purposes only and on business lines strictly. No part of the money will be expended in beautifying the woods, in local improvement, or in ministering to the comfort of any one; but solely in protecting the forest and in securing a future and perpetual timber supply.

The remainder of our report is somewhat voluminous, but through pressure of other business its presentation at this time is unavoidably delayed. We ask your indulgence in this matter, and permission to supplement this communication with a further one at an early date.

FRANCIS G. BABCOCK,
SAMUEL J. TILDEN,
CLARKSON C. SCHUYLER,
NATHAN STRAUS,
WILLIAM R. WEED,
Commissioners.

FOREST FIRES.

We are required by law, also, to include in our annual report a statement concerning each and every fire that may have occurred in the Adirondack or Catskill forests or in the scattered woodlands throughout the farming districts in this State; and are further required to make a recapitulation of the same, tabulated as to date, location, cause, and amount of damage. Pursuant to this requirement, we would, as heretofore in our annual reports, submit for your information the following statements of the Firewardens regarding the fires which have occurred during the past year in their respective towns.

The reports of the Firewardens show a still further decrease in the annual number of woodland fires and damages inflicted thereby. Only two fires of any importance occurred in the Adirondack region; one of them was in the Adirondack Park, and the other without. There was also a fire on the Shawangunk Mountains, in the Catskill Preserve, which burned for several days, and passed over quite a large extent of territory; but it occurred on ground which had been burned over so often before that the damage was slight. This fire was carefully watched and guarded, and although the Firewarden and his men were unable to extinguish it, they prevented it from spreading into the adjoining timber land.

During the past year 24 fires were reported, as against 81 cases reported in 1891; and 43, in 1892. For several years there has been a marked and constant decrease in the number of forest fires.

Fires in the Adirondack Preserve.**ESSEX COUNTY.**

Sylvester A. Reid, Firewarden for the Town of St. Armand, writes as follows:

BLOOMINGDALE, *May 11, 1893.*

There was a fire to-day which burned over a part of Lots 101 and 121, Township 11, Old Military Tract, and part, I think, of Lot 280, in Township 10, the lot that joins 121 on the north. I do not know how many acres were burned over; but it was quite a large piece. It did several hundred dollars damage to timber and fences. There were twelve or fifteen men fighting this fire all this afternoon. There is no doubt but that it can be proved that this fire was started by a certain well-known individual.

FRANKLIN COUNTY.

Ferd. W. Chase, Firewarden for the Town of Franklin, reports as follows:

On May 11th a fire started near Buck Pond, east of Rainbow Station on the Chateaugay R. R. I sent two men there promptly with a team. They found a fire burning in a fallow near the steam mill operated by Smith & Leonard. I had been watching for fire in this direction, knowing that the parties intended to clear some land, and had personally warned them of the danger in doing so; but they seemed to think my anxiety needless. On obtaining further information regarding this fire, I immediately sent, by team, every man that I could muster, and by using grub-hoes, shovels, and pails, succeeded in subduing it. That evening a little rain fell, and to all appearances the fire was entirely out; but on the 13th the fire was found to be still smouldering in the duff and in the old logs and stumps, so I again sent men to the same place.

On the morning of the 23d I saw smoke arising in the same direction. At the same time the wind was blowing very hard from the south, and, as there had been no rain since the 13th, everything was very dry. I started at once with a party of men, but before we could reach the spot we met people coming out on horse-back in great haste, and reporting

that the mill and buildings were gone, the whole country burning, and no use to go any further.

The fifty men I had ordered out did all they could, saving some buildings and fencing in the vicinity of Merrillsville.

This fire started about four miles from my place, but in less than three hours it was within one-half mile of us, having burned over more than 3,000 acres. Had it not been for a sudden change in the wind, accompanied by a smart shower, nothing could have saved my buildings. The entire property here would have been destroyed. This fire, in the judgment of competent woodsmen — men familiar with forest fires — was the “hottest and quickest” ever seen in this section; and it all came from an attempt to burn a few acres of fallow. Each year I have posted the rules and regulations regarding fires, furnished from your office, and so there was no excuse for this carelessness.

Superintendent Fox was on the ground at the time of the fire, and personally examined the burnt district, and questioned the persons connected with the mill regarding the origin of the fire. Forester Tormey was also present and will make a further report.

I most earnestly recommend that the law be so amended that fallow and brush shall be burned only in the spring, and not until the hardwood trees are in full foliage; then the brake, grass, and so forth, will be in leaf, and the danger of fire running along the ground not so great.”

Forester Tormey who was instructed to make a special investigation in this case, reports as follows:

Col. WILLIAM F. Fox, Superintendent State Forests:

Dear Sir.—In your letter of June 16th you ask me to give a full report of the facts, so far as I know, in relation to the fire that occurred near Roake’s mill in May last. The first fire occurred about the 10th or 11th of May last, and came nearly across the woods from Roake’s Mill to Round Pound. I was not in the vicinity at the time this fire took place; so I cannot state accurately when it occurred. The fire smouldered for several days in the old rotten trees and logs lying in the

burnt land near Round Pond, and the weather being very dry I was fearful that the fire might break out again. So, on May 23d I went, in company with L. L. Smith, to the burnt land to investigate the danger of the fire breaking out again. This was about eight o'clock in the forenoon. We remained in the woods about two hours, but did not discover fire except in two places; and this was in the burnt district near Round Pond where there was no danger of it breaking out again. After we left the woods, we drove down in the direction of Loon Lake; but before we got to Thacherville, about two and a half miles away, we saw a heavy volume of smoke rising in the direction of Roake's mill. This was between eleven and twelve o'clock. I then started for Loon Lake to notify Ferd. W. Chase (he being Firewarden), but had not gone far when I met him on his way going to look after the fire, as he had already discovered the danger and was making haste to try to extinguish it. After I got my dinner I started back to the burning district. I went via Round Pond and Buck Pond, the fire being mostly southeasterly from those ponds. When I came to Buck Pond bridge I noticed a new outburst of thick smoke to the windward of the original fire. I then set my compass on Buck Pond bridge and took in the most westerly end of the fire, which was ten degrees east of south at 3:40 p. m. I then continued on my way to the fire via Hartwell Station and the new road to what is called the Oregon Road that leads to Roake's steam mill, and followed this road easterly until I came to the west edge of the burnt district. I here set my compass again, and found that the fire traveled five degrees west of south against a strong southwest wind. While I was taking in the surroundings at this point the fire broke out again some thirty or forty rods to westward of the burnt district. I then thought there was some one setting back fires in order to make a connection with a fire that was raging in the vicinity of Wardner's or in that direction; but a heavy rain then came on which checked the fire in all directions. I met you near Roake's mill in company with Lem. Washburn and others on your way to

investigate the burnt district, and you requested me at my earliest convenience to look up the cause of the fire, and if possible ascertain its true origin, as there was some question as to where the fire started on May 23d, some claiming that the fire started at Roake's mill, and others that it came over the mountain from Vermontville. It was not convenient for me to attend to the matter then as I was very busy at the time; but on the 14th day of June I went in company with A. N. Skiff, a man well acquainted with the circumstances of the fire, and living in the neighborhood of same. We started in from where the fire crossed the Oregon road west of Roake's mill, and went south on the west margin of the burnt district, on the west side of Roake's chopping, to the south bounds of same. We then traveled east along the south margin of the path of the fire, and did not find any trace of fire coming from the south or west that made any connection with the fire on Roake's land. The fire followed the slash, made by Roake's chopping, and did not go off Roake's land to the south or west, only in a few places. It burnt over a small corner of Lot 270 on the northwest corner, and also on Lot 291, claimed by Monroe Hall. I have but one more suggestion to make in regard to the fire question, and that is, that where the railroads pass through the Forest district they should be compelled to keep their tracks perfectly free and clean from all inflammable matter whatever.

Yours respectfully.

M. TORMEY,
Forester, Twp. 10, Franklin County.

I have examined the statement made by Mr. Tormey concerning the fires in our vicinity last May, and fully concur with him in all he says. I do think that there is much negligence on the part of the railroads in keeping brush, &c., cleared away from their lines; also, in dumping ash pans, &c.

FERD. W. CHASE,
Firewarden, Town of Franklin.

Emmett W. Tryon, Firewarden for the Town of Santa Clara, reports as follows:

On May 13th there was a fire in Township 16, which burnt over about 300 acres of land, destroying about 300 cords of wood. The origin of the fire is unknown.

HAMILTON COUNTY.

George D. Rhodes, Firewarden for the Town of Benson, reports:

On May 11th a fire occurred on Lots 117 and 118, Benson Township. I ordered out what help I needed, and put it out. No damage was done, except that three or four cords of hemlock bark were burned. No timber of any account was injured, as the most of the ground had been burnt over before. The cause of the fire is unknown. I looked the ground over, and should think it covered nearly 100 acres. The town is well posted with laws and rules.

William B. Meveigh, Firewarden for the Town of Lake Pleasant, reports:

On August 10th a fire started on Potash Mountain, and lasted until August 17th. It was impossible to subdue it until a heavy rain came to our assistance. About this time there were six different fires going on at the same time, and I did my best to attend to them all. With the exception of Potash Mountain, no very serious damage was done. Inspector Burke directed me to post up more notices than I had done, which I attended to at once. The Town Board refused to allow my bill to the extent of \$10.

Mr. Meveigh writes again, as follows:

SAGEVILLE, *August 15, 1893.*

Dear Sir.—I understand a complaint has been entered in regard to a forest fire in my district, and I feel that an explanation is due in justice to me. This fire was due to carelessness coupled with, I consider, craft in trying to have this town pay for damage done on an unfinished and undesirable lumber job. The fire is now burning on Potash Mountain, and was virtually

beyond control before I was notified. I went with all available men, and did all I could to check the progress of the fire. Owing to the entire lack of water, I could only dig a trench, and remove all inflammable material as far as possible. The fire can be quenched by rain only. I cannot find out just who is the transgressor; hence, can take no steps. I attended the fire for three days, and then, worn out with fatigue, I returned home and deputed the Supervisor to send men; but no number of men can extinguish this fire. I trust this explanation will be satisfactory.

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY.

Harlow Rhodes, Firewarden for the Town of Fowler, writes:

FOWLER, N. Y., *October 16, 1893.*

A fire occurred in the south part of this town on the 14th of this month, burning over about sixty acres of timber land. Some of this land was covered with good spruce and hemlock, and some of it was of not much value. It did the most damage along the ridges where the best of the spruce and hemlock was growing. It did not kill many trees entirely, but scorched them enough to kill most of the hemlock bark, the loss on which is estimated at forty cords. Perhaps some of this bark will peel next spring. The spruce which was burned will still make sound lumber if it is cut within a year. The damage will not exceed \$100 if the timber which was injured is removed within a year and used.* The origin of the fire is not known; but it is supposed to have caught from some stumps which were burning in a plowed field forty rods from the woods. I was not notified until in the night; but it rained before morning, which stopped its spreading any more.

SARATOGA COUNTY.

Mr. R. E. Cronkhite, Firewarden for the Town of Greenfield, reports:

As Firewarden of the Town of Greenfield, I will say that the rules are kept posted in all parts of the town. Not a forest fire has occurred in this town during the year.

*This condition of affairs is commended to the notice of certain individuals who are declaiming so loudly that "not a tree shall be cut," etc.

On August 15th I was called as Firewarden to help extinguish a forest fire in the adjoining Town of Wilton. If the citizens of both towns had not responded promptly we would have had the largest forest fire which has occurred for years.

Anson J. Larkin, Firewarden for the Town of Ballston, writes:

BALLSTON LAKE, N. Y., *July 24, 1893.*

A fire started in the woods on the 22d of July at about eleven a. m., near Ballston Lake, a station on the D. & H. R. R. An excursion train had just passed and these fires started immediately in the adjoining woods, on lands of Hon. S. W. Buell, James Devereau, and others. On receiving notice I employed help and repaired to the place immediately. We found fires in the woods for about a mile along said railroad. It had just got nicely started; it was only by a severe and hot fight that we conquered it. We had to keep going over the line to keep it down, for the wind was blowing hard and carried burning leaves several rods, thus starting new fires to be quenched. Towards night a small shower came to our relief. Three or four acres were burned over.

On July 31st Mr. Larkin writes further:

On July 25th there was a fire in the woods near the south end of Ballston Lake, and about one-quarter of a mile north of that station. It was noticed immediately after the passage of a freight train going north, at about one o'clock p. m. I saw the smoke arising above the woods and immediately hastened to the spot with help. I found the fire in the woodlands of Hon. S. W. Buell, and on the pasture land of Patrick Mulligan, situated along the D. & H. R. R. I employed more help and after a hard, hot fight, got the fire under control. There was a quantity of dried brush which made a very hot flame.

About one acre was burned over, the line fence destroyed for forty or fifty rods, and the young growth of timber very much damaged. In extinguishing it, we used pails of water and green boughs. I then turned to the railroad lands, and saved a large pile of new pine ties belonging to the railroad company.

Mr. William H. Burnett, Fire warden for the Town of Queensbury, writes:

LAKE GEORGE, N. Y., *November 18, 1893.*

On the 29th of October a fire occurred in the woods on French Mountain, which burned over about one-half acre. No damage was done in particular, except the heat upon the standing timber. The cause of the fire is as yet unknown. I warned out six persons, and they put the fire out quickly.

Daniel Sheehan, Firewarden for the Town of Johnsburch, writes:

NORTH CREEK, N. Y., *May 20, 1893.*

On May 11th a fire broke out in Township 12, on the South Gore, caused by parties burning a fallow. It ran over about 200 acres of land belonging to private individuals, causing damage to the amount of \$300. I ordered out twenty-five men, and after fighting it all day, succeeded in putting it out with the timely assistance of a shower.

Catskill Preserve.

ULSTER COUNTY.

Mr. C. H. Sheley, Firewarden for the Town of Wawarsing, writes:

ELLENVILLE, N. Y., *September 27, 1893*

On August 7th a forest fire broke out on Shawangunk Mountain, which lasted ten days, burning over 4,000 acres of wild land. Very little timber was injured, but some wood and hop poles were destroyed. This tract is covered mostly with huckleberry bushes, and it is supposed that the fire was started by huckleberry pickers. We fought it by using back fires wherever we could use some road or other suitable place for the purpose, and watched it for ten days and nights with a large force of men. We succeeded in preventing it from spreading into the forest on the mountain side, thereby saving the trees which protect that part of this watershed.

George W. Lewis, Firewarden for the Town of Olive, reports: We have had no fires of any account during the year in this town. There have been none in the mountains where, in former years, fires were started by tourists and berry pickers, owing to the rules and laws of the Commission having been posted in every conspicuous place. We have been on guard to prevent fires from being set by anyone, except for burning brush.

Counties Outside the Preserve.

ALLEGANY COUNTY.

Mr. Albert Doolittle, Firewarden for the Town of Birdsall, reports:

Forest fires occurred in this town in the month of August, which burned over about 1,000 acres of land. Some fencing was destroyed, amounting in value to about \$100. In extinguishing the fire we resorted to plowing furrows, and using water drawn in barrels and carried in pails. The origin of the fire is unknown. The ground burned over was mostly land from which the timber had been taken off, and which had grown up to brush and briars; consequently the damage was merely nominal in comparison with the area burned.

Mr. John L. Dudley, Firewarden for the Town of Granger, reports:

On the 5th of September about five acres were burned over. The amount of damage is estimated at \$50, about seventy-five rods of fence having been burned. This fire caught from some stumps and brush which were being burned to clear land. It was extinguished by drawing water to the place.

JEFFERSON COUNTY.

Mr. John Whaling, Firewarden for the Town of Wilna, reports:

In the month of June, about five or six acres of low land (muck) were burned over. I employed a man to keep it from spreading. Cause of fire unknown.

ORANGE COUNTY.

Mr. S. D. Robertson, Firewarden of the Town of Crawford, reports:

Fires occurred in this town on August 5th, 7th, and 14th. The damage amounted in all to about \$25. The fire was caused by locomotives on the M. & C. R. R.

ORLEANS COUNTY.

Mr. William N. Dean, Firewarden of the Town of Carlton, reports:

A fire spread from an old stump in some muck land, which inflicted damages on land, timber, and fencing to the amount of \$1,150. It was finally subdued by digging a trench around it, after an expenditure of 148 days' work. This fire was started by an occupant on A. S. Weed's land, who set fire to stumps, which spread to the wood and cleared lands of A. Wood, and a Mrs. Hoag. This fire started some time in the latter part of July, and was not extinguished until some time in August. The loss stated is based on an estimate made by Mr. Wood and inclosed in this report.

The inclosed memoranda referred to by Mr. Dean, reads as follows:

"Damage by fire to Mrs. Hoag's property: one acre of woodland burned over, and muck on same burned. Damage, \$100.

Damage to A. S. Weed: 25 acres burned over, 100 rods of fencing destroyed, and about 2 acres of muck. Damage, \$200.

Damage to Albert Wood: One acre of heavily timbered woodland, and 8 acres of muck land burned over; and 100 rods of good fencing destroyed. Damage over \$600.

This fire started from an old stump on the A. S. Weed farm, and it cost me 100 days' work to dig around the fire and watch the same. Expense, \$150.

Damage to Mr. Roberts: Burned over about 5 acres of slashing, and 40 rods of poor fencing. Damage, \$50.

Total damage, and expenses, including Roberts' work, estimated at \$25, amounts to \$1,125.00.

STEBEN COUNTY.

H. S. Rosencrans, Firewarden for the Town of Wayland, reports:

The only fires which have occurred in this town during the year were set by sparks from locomotives on the Lackawanna R. R. Very little damage was done to timber, but a meadow of four acres was burned over and some hay destroyed, which was paid for by the railroad company. The damage amounted to \$25. Otherwise the town has been free from forest fires. This fire occurred July 1, on the farm of S. G. Avery. Again, in August, this same lot, with some additional meadow land adjoining, was burned over; in all about twelve acres. The land was damaged to such an extent that it had to be plowed up. This fire like the previous one was caused by sparks from the D. & L. R. R.

Mr. William S. Hurlbut, Supervisor of the Town of Hornellsville, reports:

In July a fire started on Tar Hill, which burned over about thirty acres of woodland. Its cause is unknown, but it was probably started accidentally by hunters. In August an extensive fire broke out on the hill west of the City of Hornellsville, which burned over 200 acres of thinly timbered woodland, and at one time seriously threatened the western part of the city, which was saved only by calling out the fire department. The damage to farming and timber lands would amount to \$500; perhaps more. This fire was not completely under control for several days, and not then until rain came and put it out. It is thought that it was caused by sparks from a passing railroad locomotive. It occurred during the usual drought.

Mr. G. W. Campbell, Supervisor for the Town of Erwin, reports:

The forest fires in this town for the past year are of small account. One occurred on the 10th of May, in which about fifty acres were burned over. All the valuable timber had been taken off from this land previous to the fire. The damage was about \$1 per acre. It started from an engine on the Fall Brook R. R.

TOMPKINS COUNTY.

Mr. E. S. Carpenter, Supervisor of the City of Ithaca, reports:

There was a fire about the 1st of April near the west part of the city which burned over about five acres, destroying the undergrowth and some of the timber. Damage, \$100. This fire was caused by sparks from locomotives on the Lehigh Valley R. R. Fires are frequently caused by the locomotives on this railroad.

SUMMARY.

The law requires that "A consolidated summary of these returns by counties shall be included in the annual report;" pursuant to which we submit the following recapitulation:

ADIRONDACK COUNTIES.

Date.	COUNTY.	Acres.	Damage.	Cause.
1893.				
May 11	Essex	109	\$200	Incendiary.
May 11	Franklin	10	50	Clearing land.
May 11	Hamilton	100	25	Unknown.
May 11	Warren	200	800	Clearing land.
May 18	Franklin	800	500	Unknown.
May 28	Franklin	8,000	5,000	Clearing land.
July 22	Saratoga	4	10	Railroad locomotive.
July 25	Saratoga	1	10	Railroad locomotive.
Aug. 10	Hamilton	1,000	8,000	Incendiary.
Aug. 15	Saratoga	5	10	Clearing land.
Oct. 14	St. Lawrence....	60	100	Clearing land.
Oct. 29	Warren	1	5	Unknown.

CATSKILL COUNTIES.

Aug. 7 | Ulster..... | 4,000 | 500 | Berry pickers.

IN OTHER COUNTIES.

April 1	Tompkins	5	100	Railroad locomotive.
May 10	Steuben	50	50	Railroad locomotive.
June 15	Jefferson	5	10	Unknown.
July 1	Steuben	4	25	Railroad locomotive.
July 10	Steuben	80	100	Hunters.
July 30	Orleans	40	(?) 1,125	Clearing land.
Aug. 7	Orange	5	25	Railroad locomotive.
Aug. 10	Allegany	1,000	100	Unknown.
Aug. 10	Steuben	12	80	Railroad locomotive.
Aug. 12	Steuben	200	500	Railroad locomotive.
Sept. 5	Allegany	5	50	Unknown.

Total acres burned over, 10,137. Damage, \$11,825.

Of the twenty-four fires reported in the preceding table, the greater part were due to the usual causes, viz.: clearing land, and locomotives, as shown in the following synopsis.

From railroad locomotives	8
From clearing land	6
From incendiaries	2
From hunters	1
From berry pickers	1
From causes unknown	6

24

the
nd.

8

6

2

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1

6

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S. R. Stoddard, Photo.

ADIRONDACK SURVEYORS.

TRESPASSES.*

The lands of the State Forest are scattered over so wide a territory that the number of Foresters allowed by law is insufficient to patrol the various districts thoroughly. Although the timber thieves and trespassers are invariably discovered and their work stopped, the Forester cannot do this, of course, until work has been commenced. The logs seized and sold vary in quantity according to the length of time in which the depredators had been able to push their work before the Forester came across traces of their operations. With so wide a territory and so few patrols, the thieves under cover of a dense and pathless forest can often work for days and weeks before the sound of the axe or the trail in the snow gives evidence of their presence. In some cases, as appears in the following statement of amounts received from trespassers, the Forester caught his man at the very start; while in others, the amount collected indicates that work had been carried on for weeks before the Forester in making his rounds discovered the trespasser.

The largest amount on the list—that of \$1,200, returned January 27, 1893,—represents several cases which were discovered by Asst. Supt. Haberstro and his men, but in which the logs from all were sold to one party. These logs had been skidded and part of them hauled to the stream, the trespassers thus losing their labor as well as the timber.

The item of \$784.12 received December 13, 1892, was for 1,054 standards, mostly spruce, which were cut by William J. Gillespie, who has a saw-mill at Bloomingdale, N. Y. This was not an intentional trespass. One Monroe Hall, of Plattsburgh, N. Y.,

* The Commission has found by experience that, in cases of unintentional trespass, it is impossible to get a jury to give a verdict for twenty-five dollars a tree, as provided by law. The jury will seldom award damages much in excess of the value of the timber in such cases.

sold to Gillespie the timber on lot belonging to the State, Hall claiming that he owned the land. Gillespie, acting in good faith, made a payment to Hall on the lot and commenced cutting the spruce. As Gillespie owned timber in that vicinity, considerable work had been done before it was learned that he was cutting on State land. The logs were seized by Inspector Burke under a writ of replevin, and were released upon the payment of a sum equal to double the stumpage value of the timber, together with a bill of costs, amounting to \$85.62.

Many of the trespasses on the following list were unintentional, being due to a lack of marked lines along the State's boundary, or to a disputed line. Still, in all such cases, the Superintendent was instructed to put the price high enough to preclude any further errors through neglect or carelessness in ascertaining the correct boundary.

The officers of the Commission having experienced great annoyance through the petty thieving in the Fulton County Forest, several arrests were made by Asst. Supt. Haberstro and Inspector Burke. The prisoners were taken to Johnstown, given a jury trial, and five of them convicted, the Forest Commission being represented in the case by Hon. Robert P. Anibal, of Johnstown.

In some instances where the logs were seized and sold, no further action was taken, as the thieves lost not only their plunder, but their labor, which constituted the principal value of the logs where they lay when seized.* As the offenders in these cases were miserably poor, with large families dependent on them for food, it was thought best to suspend prosecution; especially, as a conviction would only send their families to the poorhouse, where they would become a burden on the town.

In the suppression of timber thieving, and conviction of trespassers the Superintendent desires to acknowledge the valuable assistance rendered by Asst. Supt. Haberstro, Inspector Burke, and Foresters Mullen, Powers, Parker, Tormey, and Jencks.

* Logs delivered on the bank, in the Upper Hudson District, are worth \$1.80 per market, of which \$1.00 represents labor.

Statement showing the amount of money which has been collected by the Commission on account of trespasses, from October 1, 1892, to October 1, 1893.

1892.

Oct.	27.	For hop-poles cut in Lewis County, Town of Lyonsdale, on Lot 208, Brantingham Tract....	\$7 40
Oct.	27.	For logs cut in Franklin County, Town of Franklin, on Township 10, O. M. T.....	68 00
Dec.	1.	For logs cut in Franklin County, Town of Franklin, on Lot 138, Township 10, O. M. T.....	75 00
Dec.	13.	For building timber cut in Hamilton County, Township 40, T. and C. P.....	90 00
Dec.	13.	For logs cut in Essex County, Town of St. Armand, on Lots 145 and 146, Township 11, O. M. T....	784 12

1893.

Jan.	6.	For logs cut on Lots 78 and 79, Chase's Patent, Town of Bleeker, Fulton County.....	75 00
Jan.	9.	For trees cut on Lot 83, Chase's Patent, Fulton County	30 00
Jan.	27.	From sundry persons for logs cut on State lands in the Town of Benson, Hamilton County, and the Town of Bleeker, Fulton County.....	1,200 00
Feb.	1.	For logs cut on Lots 6 and 41, Township 27, Thorn's Survey, Essex County.....	28 25
Feb.	2.	For logs cut on Lot 1, Gore between Township 11 and Dartmouth Patent, Warren County....	150 00
Feb.	20.	For logs cut on Lot 171, Township 10, O. M. T., Franklin County	15 75
Feb.	20.	For trespass on Lots 78 and 79, Chase's Patent, Fulton County	100 00
Feb.	23.	For wood cut on Lot 188, Township 10, O. M. T., Franklin County	5 00
Feb.	28.	For wood taken from State land in Essex County,	3 00
March	1.	For trespass on Lot 325, Township 10, O. M. T., Essex County	125 00
March	4.	For wood cut on Lot 329, Township 10, O. M. T., Franklin County	6 00
March	8.	For logs cut on Lot 185, O. M. T., Township 10, Franklin County	4 50
March	8.	For wood cut on Lot 280, Township 10, O. M. T., Franklin County	2 50
March	10.	For wood cut on Lot 280, Township 10, O. M. T., Franklin County	4 00
March	22.	For wood cut on Lot 7, Glen, Bleeker and Lansing Patent, Fulton County	5 00

1893.

March 22.	For wood cut on Lot 281, Township 10, O. M. T., Franklin County	\$ 2 00
March 22.	For wood cut on Lot 9, Township 4, O. M. T., Clinton County	35 00
March 22.	For logs cut on Township 40, T. and C. P., Hamilton County	25 00
March 27.	For logs cut on Lot 6, Township 10, O. M. T., Franklin County	25 00
March 27.	For trespass on Lot 96, Township 10, O. M. T., Clinton County	15 00
March 27.	For wood cut on Lot 281, Township 10, O. M. T., Franklin County	3 00
April 5.	For trees cut on Lot 52, Township 10, O. M. T., Franklin County	35 00
April 5.	For logs cut on Lot 64, Township 12, Thorn's Survey, Essex County	66 00
April 5.	For logs cut on Lot 112, O. M. T., Township 10, Franklin County	125 00
April 7.	For logs cut on Lot 40, Township 8, Maxwell Tract, Hamilton County	150 00
April 13.	For trespass on Lots 32 and 34, Township 11, Town of Warrensburgh, Warren County.....	50 00
May 12.	For timber cut on Lot 126, O. M. T., Thorn's Survey, Essex County	10 00
May 12.	For timber cut on Lot 152, Township 10, O. M. T., Franklin County	7 50
July 10.	For logs cut on Township 5, T. and C. P., Hamilton County	19 00
		<u><u>*\$3,346 02</u></u>

In spite of seizures, penalties and convictions, the timber thieves are tireless in their efforts to cut trees here and there without being detected; and the State forests, owing to their scattered locations and lack of plainly marked boundary lines, are continually subject to petty encroachments by lumbermen who are operating on adjacent lands. Still the wholesale timber thieving of former years has been suppressed, and, through the activity of the Foresters, trespassing has been minimized and restricted to merely a beginning in each case.

From the organization of the Forest Commission to October 1, 1893, the Department has collected \$24,690.48 from tres-

* See Comptroller's Report for 1893, page 31.

passers, an amount large enough to indicate the extensive plundering which would ensue if the Foresters were to be withdrawn and the public woodlands left unwatched.

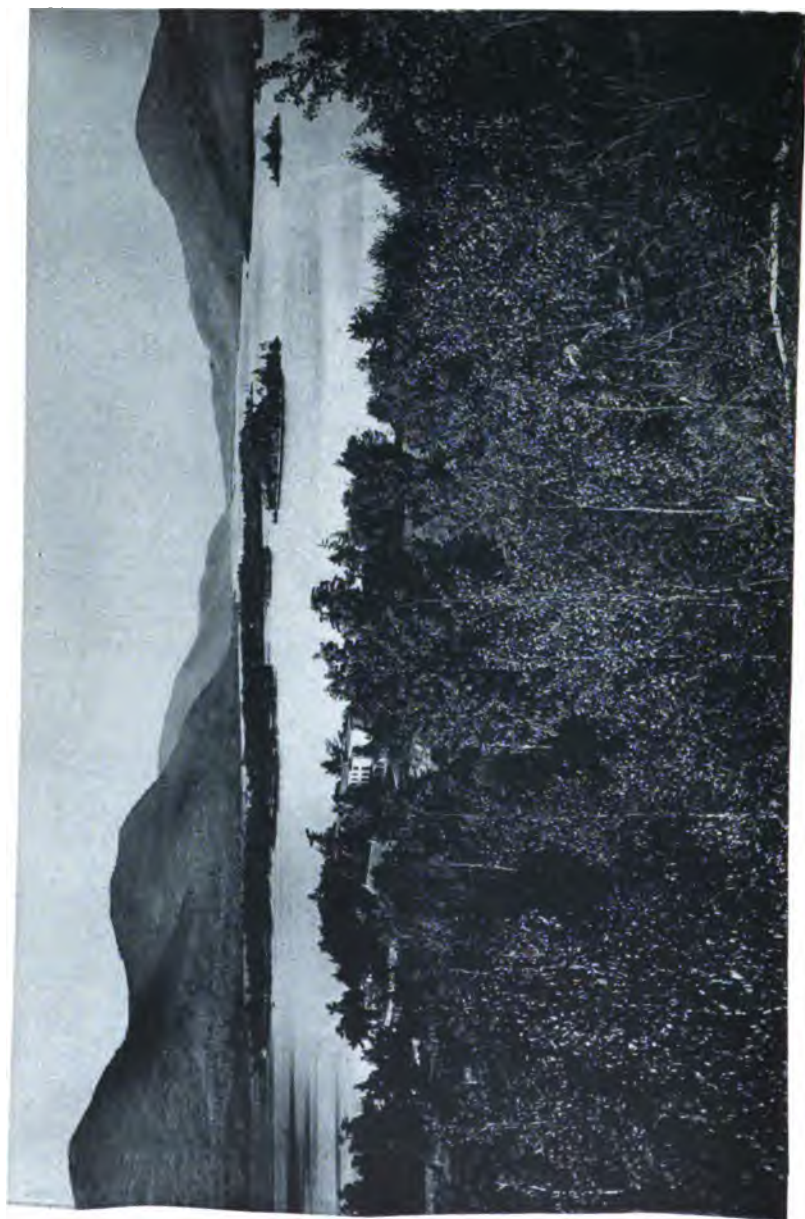
The money collected from trespasses cannot be used by the Forest Commission in its work, but is turned over to the Comptroller as fast as it is received. The only fund available for the use of the Commission is that which is annually voted for that purpose by the Legislature in the Appropriation or Supply Bills.

CAMPING PRIVILEGES.

There are over 200 miles of water front which are available for camp-sites on the State lands situated along the wooded shores of Raquette Lake, the Saranacs, Lake George Islands, Fulton Chain, Boreas River, and other lakes or streams. These charming spots, surrounded by lovely views of forest, mountain, and lake, are open to the public, and may be occupied without any charge, rental, or fees, the only requirement being that parties shall refrain from cutting or injuring trees, and shall be careful in the use of fires.

With the increased railroad facilities which now enable people to reach any part of the Adirondacks at little expense, as compared with former years, it is hoped that our citizens—especially young men on their summer vacations—will avail themselves of the pleasant days and healthful benefits which camp life offers, and occupy some of these desirable localities. There is enough room for all, and more than enough. Twenty thousand people can pitch their tents along these lakes and streams and by the forest shaded brooks, without interfering with each other in the least. All are invited to come and urged to come.

The erection of any building, or temporary structure, or shanty, will not be permitted. Canvas tents will be allowed, in which board floors may be laid down. Peeling bark from spruce trees for covering camps or shanties is strictly forbidden, and is punishable by law. Peeling white birches is a reprehensible practice which is also forbidden, the offenders forfeiting their camp privilege and rendering themselves liable to a severe fine. Dead trees and fallen timber must be used for firewood, the cutting of green trees for fuel being prohibited so



S. R. Stoddard, Photo.

LAKE GEORGE ISLANDS

long as any dead timber is to be had within a reasonable distance.

Where parties wish the permanent right to a camp-site, or want to erect a building or cottage, the law authorizes the Forest Commission to issue a lease, not to exceed five acres in size. The law provides that the Commission shall have the power:

"To lease from time to time for a term not longer than five years land within the Forest Preserve, not more than five acres in one parcel to any person, for the erection of camps or cottages for the use and accommodation of campers. Such leases shall contain strict conditions as to the cutting and protection of timber and the prevention of fires, a reservation for travelers of the right of passage over the land leased at all proper and reasonable times, and a covenant on the part of the lessee to observe all ordinances or regulations of the Forest Commission thereto, for, or thereafter to be prescribed; and no exclusive privilege of fishing or hunting shall be granted to any person. All revenues received from such lease shall be paid into the State treasury and shall be placed to the credit of the special fund established for the purchase of lands within the Adirondack Park."

These leases are laid out with twenty rods of water front and extending back forty rods from the lake, or as nearly so as the shape of the land or island will permit. Acting under the law the following leases have been made.

Mrs. Ann H. Manierre.....	Hocum Bay, Lower Saranac Lake.
Edward and Benj. Manierre...	Hocum Bay, Lower Saranac Lake.
William P. Mason.....	Eagle Island, Saranac Lake.
Albert C. Spann.....	Muskrat Point, Saranac Lake.
Dr. Arpad C. Gerster.....	Big Island, Raquette Lake.
Cornelia T. Kirby.....	Golden Beach, Raquette Lake.
Dr. Delavan Bloodgood.....	Hen and Chickens Island, Lake George.
Jerome Lapham	Phantom Island, Lake George.
Len-a-wee Club	Len-a-wee Island, Lake George.
Agnes Ranger	Ranger Island, Lake George.
William A. Wait.....	Sweetbrier Island, Lake George.
C. E. and F. H. Bullard... ..	Juanita Island,* Lake George.

* Camp site only; not the entire island.

Albert L. Judson.....	Pleasant, Island, Lake George.
William D. Mann.....	Waltonian Island, Lake George.
L. H. Fillmore.....	Uncas Island,* Lake George.
Mrs. Cecil Gabbett.....	Temple Noe Island, Lake George.
Oberon Lapham	Big Burnt Island,* Lake George.
The Glen Club.....	Glen Island, Lake George.
Thomas P. Wicks.....	Chapel Pond, Keene Valley.

These leases vary in price from \$200 to \$30 per year, for the five acres or less occupied, aggregating \$1,425 per year, an amount which will be materially increased. The proceeds from these leases are turned over to the Comptroller to be placed to the credit of the special fund established for the purchase of lands within the Adirondack Park.

In view of the immense number of desirable camp-sites open to the public, free of charge, none of which are ever occupied, it will readily be seen that the few leases which have been made, or may yet be made, will not abridge in the least the rights and privileges of the people. At the same time, these leases furnish a permanent revenue which will aid the Department in offsetting the cost of its maintenance.

* Camp site only; not the entire island.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.*

In the annual Appropriation Bill passed by the Legislature, April 16, 1892, the Forest Commission was allowed the usual sum of \$30,000 for the maintenance of its work. Like all appropriations in the bill, this money was not available until October 1, 1892, it being intended for the expenses of the Department during the fiscal year beginning on that date. Of this sum, \$18,500 was specially designated for salaries, and \$11,500 for "traveling expenses of the Commissioners and officials, for printing and office expenses, for fees of attorneys and witnesses, and for the prevention of fire."

In addition to this \$30,000 granted in the regular Appropriation Bill, an additional sum of \$5,500 for salaries was given to the Commission in the Annual Supply Bill passed May 18, 1893. The latter sum, like all items in the Supply Bill, was placed to the credit of the Department on the date mentioned, making the total appropriation \$35,500 for the year 1892-93. This amount was still further increased by the sum of \$709.46, standing to the credit of the Commission on the Comptroller's books, being the unexpended balance remaining on hand at the close of the preceding fiscal year, September 30, 1892.

By chapter 562, Laws of 1887, a park was established in the Catskill Preserve for breeding deer, with the intention of ultimately restocking that region with this kind of game. The care and maintenance of this large inclosure or park devolves by this law on the Forest Commission, and so all appropriations for this object have been added each year to the account of this Department. The Supply Bill, passed in May, 1893, con-

*"The Commission shall annually make a written report to the Legislature of their receipts and expenses," etc. (Chap. 522, Laws of 1893.)

tained an item of \$4,250 for this fund, of which amount \$2,750 was designated for the maintenance of the park, "including the purchase of live deer," and \$1,500 for inclosing with a wire fence adjoining lands for enlarging its area. There was also an unexpended balance to the credit of the Deer Park Fund remaining over from the year 1891-92. This balance amounted to \$1,351.22 less \$172 which "lapsed" during the past year by limitation, and was returned to the Treasury.

Care has been taken to keep the expenses well within the limits of the appropriations, and in the following statement of receipts and expenditures it will be seen that at the close of the year there was an unexpended balance on hand to the credit of three accounts,—salaries, expenses, and Deer Park,—amounting to \$10,597.79.

FOREST COMMISSION — STATE OF NEW YORK.

ANNUAL STATEMENT, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30 1893.

Receipts.

From appropriation* for salaries	\$24,000 00
From appropriation for expenses	11,500 00
From appropriation for Deer Park	4,250 00
From unexpended balance, 1892 — salaries	709 46
From unexpended balance, 1892 — expenses	111 31
From unexpended balance, 1892 — Deer Park.....	1,179 22
	<hr/>
	\$41,749 99

Expenditures.

For salaries	\$19,200 14
Employes' expenses	4,158 63
Theo. T. Basselin, Commissioner, expenses	423 42
Townsend Cox, Commissioner, expenses.....	1,135 10
C. C. Schuyler, Commissioner, expenses.....	76 20
William R. Weed, Commissioner, expenses.....	192 10
Legal expenses	2,019 37
Printing	226 55
Stationery	216 28
Postage	300 00
Expressage	184 52
Telegrams	78 36

* Including item of \$5,500 in the Supply Bill.

REPORT OF THE FOREST COMMISSION.**45**

Telephone	\$62 00
Messenger service	22 93
Office library	106 55
Office furniture	17 50
Newspapers	48 20
Newspaper clippings	98 15
Surveying	788 77
Miscellaneous expenses	92 57
Catskill Deer Park	1,704 86
Balance unexpended — salaries	5,509 32
Balance unexpended — expenses	1,364 11
Balance unexpended — Deer Park	3,724 36

\$41,749 99

ORGANIZATION.

This Department, as organized under the law of 1893, has at its head a Commission composed of five members. This law provides that:

Sec. 101. There shall be a forest commission consisting of five persons to be known as the forest commissioners, appointed by the governor by and with the advice and consent of the senate and holding office for the term of five years. The commissioners shall serve without compensation but shall be paid for the reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties.

Sec. 102. The forest commission shall:

1. Have the care, custody, control and superintendence of the forest preserve.

2. Maintain and protect the forests in the forest preserve and promote as far as practicable the further growth of the forest therein.

3. Have charge of the public interests of the state with regard to forestry and tree planting especially with reference to forest fires in every part of the state.

4. Possess all the powers relating to the forest preserve which were vested in the commissioners of the land office and in the comptroller on May fifteen, eighteen hundred and eighty-five.

5. Prescribe rules and regulations affecting the whole or any part of the forest preserve and for its use, care and administration, and alter or amend the same.

6. Employ a superintendent, assistant superintendent, two forest inspectors, twelve foresters and such clerical force and agents as they may deem necessary, and fix their compensation, but the expenses and salaries of such employes shall not exceed

in the aggregate, with the other expenses of the commission, the sum appropriated therefor by the legislature.

7. Take such measures as in the judgment of the commissioners may be proper, and the state superintendent of public instruction and the regents of the university may approve, for awakening an interest in behalf of forestry in the common schools, academies, and colleges of the state and of imparting elementary instruction on such subject therein; and prepare and distribute the tracts and circulars of information, giving plain and concise instructions for the care of private woodlands and for the growth of new forests upon lands that have been denuded, exhausted by cultivation, eroded by torrents, or injured by fire, or that are sandy, marshy, broken, sterile, or waste and unfit for other use. These publications shall be furnished without cost to any citizen of the state on application, and proper measures may be taken for bringing them to the notice of persons who would be benefited thereby.

8. Cause rules for the prevention and suppression of forest fires to be printed for posting in school-houses, inns, saw-mills, and other wood-working establishments, lumber camps, and other places in such portions of the state as they may deem necessary.

Upon the enactment of the Forestry law, April 7, 1893, the Board of Commissioners—then composed of Hons. Townsend Cox, Theo. B. Basselin and Dudley Farlin—ceased to exist, the law of 1885 being repealed by the passage of this act. On April 10, 1893, the Governor appointed and the Senate confirmed the following named Commissioners:

Francis G. Babcock	Hornellsville, N. Y.
Samuel J. Tilden	New Lebanon, N. Y.
Clarkson C. Schuyler	Plattsburgh, N. Y.
Nathan Straus	New York, N. Y.
William R. Weed	Potsdam, N. Y.

The newly appointed Commission met April 19, 1893, at the Capitol in the office of the Department, and effected an organization, Commissioner Babcock being chosen President of the

Board, and Commissioners Tilden and Schuyler appointed auditors. The officers and employees retained or appointed by the Commission, and now borne on the rolls, are:

NAME.	Position.	Original appointment.
C. O. McCreedy	Secretary	June 8, 1891
Wallace T. Brooks	Assistant Secretary	December 1, 1892
J. J. Fourqurean	Stenographer	July 8, 1888
William F. Fox	Superintendent	November 1, 1885
Philip L. Haberstro	Assistant Superintendent ..	June 8, 1891
John H. Burke	Inspector	March 12, 1889
Seymour C. Armstrong	do	August 1, 1893
Frank C. Parker	Forester	June 10, 1886
Thomas Powers	do	March 1, 1889
Joseph H. Riseley	do	March 15, 1890
William Doyle	do	June 8, 1891
William Humes	do	June 8, 1891
Hezekiah S. Eckler*	do	April 5, 1892
George R. Jencks	do	Nov. 30, 1892
James Kelley	do	April 1, 1893
William F. Taylor	do	May 2, 1893
W. N. Ormsby	do	Sept. 5, 1893
J. H. Sanford	do	August 1, 1893
William H. Delmore	do	August 1, 1893
Michael Tormey	Special agent	May 2, 1893
Allen Olmsted	do	February 17, 1886
William H. Tippetts†	do	June 1, 1893
John Ryan	do	October 10, 1893
Alfred R. Ostrom	do	October 24, 1893
Cyrus Donovan	Keeper, Deer Park	October 1, 1893

* Dead. Mr. Eckler was a faithful and efficient employee. He died since the above report was sent to the Legislature. † In charge of the Lake George islands.

FIREWARDENS.*

CLINTON COUNTY.

Town.	NAME.	Address.
Altona	E. W. Tromley	Altona.
Ausable	Richard A. McCormick	Clintonville.
Beekmantown.....	Samuel Craig.....	Beekmantown.
Black Brook.....	W. W. Pierce.....	Black Brook.
Champlain	Robert McCrea.....	Champlain.
Chazy.....	R. R. Heaton	Chazy.
Clinton	Geo. W. O'Neill.....	Frontier.
Dannemora	Charles Richardson.....	Lyon Mountain.
Ellenburgh.....	Chas. H. Hutchins.....	Ellenburgh Centre.
Mooers.....	P. L. Mahan	Mooers.
Peru	Geo. P. Hallock.....	Peru.
Plattsburgh.....	Geo. W. Ostrander	West Plattsburgh.
Saranac	S. P. Morgan.....	Standish.
Schuyler Falls.....	James H. Lobdell	Schuyler Falls.

ESSEX COUNTY.

Chesterfield	Henry C. Pierre.....	Keeseville.
Crown Point.....	Timothy O'Mara.....	Crown Point Centre.
Elizabethtown.....	Friend A. Brown.....	Elizabethtown.
Essex	A. B. Hoffnagle.....	Whallonsburgh.
Jay	Thomas F. Madden.....	Lower Jay.
Keene.....	Almeron Hale.....	Keene.
Lewis.....	A. R. Whitman	Lewis.
Minerva..	M. F. Cronin	Minerva.
	John Mea	Olmsteadville.
	Michael Flynn.....	Minerva.
	James Farrell	Indian Lake.
Moriah.....	V. B. Broughton	Moriah.
Newcomb	Benj. Sibley	Newcomb.
North Elba.....	Lemuel S. Parkhurst.....	North Elba.
North Hudson.....	Edward Ploof	Schroon River.
St. Armand	Sylvester Reid.....	Bloomingtondale.
Schroon	George W. Ford.....	South Schroon.
	Ezra M. Rickert	South Schroon.
	John H. Guire.....	South Schroon.
Ticonderoga.....	Edward McCain.....	Ticonderoga.
Westport.....	George C. Osborn.....	Westport.
Willsborough	Sydney Jacobs	Willsborough.
Wilmington.....	Patrick Davey.....	Wilmington.

FRANKLIN COUNTY.

Altamont	W. E. La Fountain	Tupper Lake.
Bangor.....	Freeman Westcott.....	North Bangor.
Belmont	Nicholas Grobuski	Chasm Falls.

*The Firewardens, in the sixteen counties which include the Forest Preserve, are also appointed by the Forest Commission, and are required by law to make a written report, annually, to the Commission of any fires which may occur in their respective towns. They are not salaried officials, but receive pay for their time while on duty at a forest fire, their services being a town charge. (See Forest Law, Vol. II of this Report.)

FRANKLIN COUNTY — (Concluded).

Town.	NAME.	Address.
Bombay	John Dwyer.....	Hogansburgh.
Brandon	Luke M. Haywood	Sherry.
Brighton	George D. Knowles.....	Paul Smith's.
Burke	Oliver V. Mitchell.....	Burke.
Chateaugay	Calvin Prairie	Chateaugay.
Constable	John Lyons	Constable.
Dickinson	John W. Lyon	Dickinson Centre.
Duane	William Chambers.....	Duane.
Fort Covington	Frank Summerfield.....	Fort Covington.
	Ferd. W. Chase.....	Loon Lake.
	Silas Lamson	Vermontville.
Franklin	A. N. Skiff	Bloomington.
	Daniel Keese	Union Falls.
	Archie Collins.....	Goldsmith's.
Harriestown	Frank Eaton	Saranac Lake.
Malone	Patrick McCabe	Malone.
	Horace Helms.....	Chasam Falls.
Moir	Asa B. Witherell	Moir.
Westville.....	Eben Hoyt	Westville Centre.
	Daniel Riddell.....	Santa Clara.
Santa Clara	William Boyce	Santa Clara.
Waverly	W. H. Harvey	St. Regis Falls.

FULTON COUNTY.

Bleecker	Francis Unger.....	Bleecker.
Broadalbin	Sanford Ryder	North Broadalbin.
Caroga	Fred. Bosquet	Pine Lake.
	George Snell	Rockwood.
Ephratah	George Dygert	Caroga.
Johnstown	John A. Putnam	Johnstown.
Mayfield	Frank Holmes	Cranberry Creek.
Northampton.....	Lemon Wilson	Northville.
Oppenheim.....	Ira Brown	Dolgeville.
Perth	John Fox	Perth Centre.
Stratford	Henry Cool	Stratford.

GREENE COUNTY.

Ashland	Daniel W. Hyatt	Ashland.
Athens.....	Samuel W. Sprague	Athens.
Cairo	William Meadaugh	Acra.
Catskill		
Coxsackie	John F. Sharpe	Coxsackie.
Durham	William B. Faulk	Durham.
Greenville.....	Albert Tremmel	Greenville.
Halcott	Orson Ballard	Halcott Centre.
Hunter.....	Chas. B. Wiltrel	Hunter.
Jewett	Freeman Bloodgood	Jewett.
Lexington.....	Jacob Hogaboom	Lexington.
New Baltimore.....	Charles W. Mackey	Coxsackie.
Plattsville.....	John McGinnis	Prattsville.
Windham	A. Gay Holcomb.....	Windham.

HAMILTON COUNTY.

Town.	NAME.	Address.
Arietta.....	James E. Higgins.....	Sageville.
Benson.....	William Reid.....	Benson.
Hope.....	Isaac H. Brownell.....	Hope.
Indian Lake.....	Edward Spain.....	Blue Mountain Lake.
	Tuffield Depan.....	Indian Lake.
Lake Pleasant.....	Martin Kelley.....	Newton's Corners.
Long Lake.....	Ernest Johnson.....	Long Lake.
Morehouse.....	H. F. Kreuzer.....	Morehouseville.
Wells.....	P. Hanley.....	Wells.

HERKIMER COUNTY.

Columbia.....	James M. Ackler.....	Spinnerville.
Danube.....	John Moyer.....	Danube.
Fairfield.....	John Field.....	Middleville.
Frankfort.....	George W. Keeler.....	Frankfort Centre.
German Flats.....	William Kirtle.....	Mohawk.
Herkimer.....	Thomas Burns.....	Herkimer.
Litchfield.....	Edward Cole.....	Cedarville.
Little Falls.....	George W. McCammon.....	Little Falls.
Manheim.....	E. L. Dunkel.....	Dolgeville.
Norway.....	Michael Mahardy.....	Norway.
Ohio.....	John S. Wood.....	Gray.
Russia.....	William Light.....	North Wood.
Salisbury.....	Charles L. Ives.....	Salisbury.
Schuyler.....	William Way, Jr.....	West Schuyler.
Stark.....	John Vedder.....	Van Hornesville.
Warren.....	John M. Hamner.....	Jordanville.
Wilmurt.....	Henry Conklin.....	Wilmurt.
Winfield.....	Moses C. Jordan.....	West Winfield.

LEWIS COUNTY.

Croghan.....	George Nortz.....	Belfort.
Denmark.....	John T. Martin.....	Denmark.
Diana.....	M. A. Samson.....	Sterling Bush.
Greig.....	Scudder Todd.....	Lyons Falls.
Harrisburgh.....	Frank McCarthy.....	Copenhagen.
Highmarket.....	John Harrington.....	Highmarket.
Lewis.....	Paul Finnester.....	West Leyden.
Leyden.....	Robert Roberts.....	Leyden.
Lowville.....	Ira Sharpe.....	Lowville.
Lyonsdale.....	James Dority.....	Lyonsdale.
Martinsburgh.....	William Williams.....	East Martinsburgh.
Montague.....	Orrin H. Spencer.....	Gardiner's Corners.
Osceola.....	William Roll.....	Osceola.
Pinckney.....	James D. Bourke.....	Barnes' Corners.
Turin.....	Edward A. Shephard.....	Turin.
Watson.....	Thomas Rennie.....	Chase's Lake.
West Turin.....	Adam Kotary.....	Constableville.

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY.

Brasher.....	William Roper.....	Brasher Falls.
Canton.....	C. J. Perkins.....	Canton.
Clare.....	John Bird.....	Clare.

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY — (Continued).

Town.	NAME.	Address.
Clifton ..	T. J. Donohue ..	Benson Mines.
Colton ..	W. P. Lindsey ..	S. Colton.
DeKalb ..	W. P. Hendrick ..	Richville.
DePeyster ..	J. Conklin ..	DePeyster.
Edwards ..	.....	.....
Fine ..	H. T. Carr ..	Fine.
Fowler ..	D. W. Fuller ..	Fowler.
Gouverneur ..	Stephen Farley ..	Gouverneur.
Hammond ..	M. W. Timmerman ..	Hammond.
Hermon ..	Russell T. Kinney ..	Hermon.
Hopkinton ..	J. Q. Flood ..	Hopkinton.
Lawrence ..	E. T. Dustin ..	North Lawrence.
Lisbon ..	Peter C. Mullin ..	Lisbon Centre.
Louisville ..	William Miller ..	Louisville.
Macomb ..	Milton J. Truax ..	Macomb.
Madrid ..	Patrick Kelley ..	Madrid.
Massena ..	C. C. Lantry ..	Helena.
Morristown ..	J. F. Culligan ..	Morristown.
Norfolk ..	R. C. Brinkerhoff ..	Norfolk.
Oswegatchie ..	O. A. Best ..	Heuvelton.
Parishville ..	A. R. Allen ..	Parishville.
Pierrepont ..	E. J. Corcoran ..	Colton.
Pitcairn ..	Henry C. Pearson ..	Pitcairn.
Potsdam ..	R. Merrick Wheeler ..	Potsdam.
Rossie ..	M. McMullin ..	Rossie.
Russell ..	Stephen K. Miles ..	Russell.
Stockholm ..	R. B. Wheelock ..	West Stockholm.
Waddington ..	Chris. Monaghan ..	Chase's Mills.

SARATOGA COUNTY.

Ballston ..	Anson J. Larkin ..	South Ballston.
Charlton ..	Joseph N. Hedden ..	Charlton.
Clifton Park ..	Nicholas Vischer ..	Vischer's Ferry.
Corinth ..	William McCarty ..	Corinth.
Day ..	George F. Paul ..	Day.
Edinburgh ..	Daniel A. Brownell ..	Edinburgh.
Galway ..	Henry Hill ..	Galway.
Greenfield ..	Reuben E. Cronkhite ..	Kings Station.
Hadley ..	John Holleran ..	Hadley.
Half Moon ..	Edward McDonnell ..	Mechanicville.
Malta ..	Edgar W. Eldridge ..	Malta.
Milton ..	J. A. Cipperly ..	Ballston Spa.
Moreau ..	Martin S. Brayman ..	S. Glens Falls.
Northumberland ..	John G. B. Snyder ..	Bacon's Mills.
Providence ..	Jos. B. Sowl ..	Hagadorn's Mills.
Saratoga ..	Patrick Burke, Jr. ..	Schuylerville.
Saratoga Springs ..	Benj. Hutchins ..	Ballston Spa.
Stillwater ..	William F. Donnell ..	Ketchum's Corners.
Waterford ..	James Meeker ..	Waterford.
Wilton ..	W. C. Hodges ..	Kings Station.

SULLIVAN COUNTY.

Bethel ..	Newcomb S. Mapes ..	White Lake.
Callicoon ..	Casper Van Weisenfluh ..	Youngsville.
Cochecton ..	Peter Theis ..	Fosterdale.

SULLIVAN COUNTY — (Continued).

Town.	NAME.	Address.
Delaware	Wilson D. Sporting.....	Callicoon Depot.
Fallsburgh	Morris Downey	Mountaindale.
Forestburgh	George L. Decker	Oakland Valley.
Fremont	M. A. Hoffman	North Branch.
Highlands	George W. Parker	Eldred.
Liberty	Frederick Butler	Liberty.
Lumberland	William Ruddick	Glen Spey.
Mamakating	Wesley Marshall	Wurtsboro.
Neversink	Samuel J. Groo	Grahamville.
Rockland	Peter Parks	Livingston's Manor.
Thompson	W. S. Coddington	Rock Hill.
Tusten	William Darling	Beaver Brook.

ULSTER COUNTY.

Denning	William G. Satterlee	Forest Valley.
Esopus	Charles H. Story	Ulster Park.
Gardiner	David D. Clearwater	Gardiner.
Hardenburgh	Daniel Eighmy	Turnwood.
Hurley	Clinton Shovill	West Hurley.
Kingston	Michael Burns	Sawkill.
Lloyd	Stephen B. Champlain	Lloyd.
Marbletown	Thos. Woolsey	Milton.
Marbleborough	Edward H. Shiel	Milton.
New Paltz	Elias Cole	New Paltz.
Olive	George W. Lewis	West Shokan.
Plattekill	John H. Van Ostrand	Clintondale.
Rochester	John Mertime	Mombaccus.
Rosendale	John Cook	Binnewater.
Saugerties	George Hammond	West Saugerties.
Shandaken	Patrick Johnson	Shandaken.
Shawangunk	John R. Johnson	Crawford.
Ulster	Andrew McGuire	Kingston.
Wawarsing	Cornelius H. Sheley	Ellenville.
Woodstock	Isaac Wolven	Lake Hill.

WARREN COUNTY.

Bolton	Hiram Phillips	Bolton Landing.
Caldwell	Richard P. Hubbell	Lake George.
Chester	John H. Smith	Chestertown.
Hague	Samuel H. Miller	Hague.
Horicon	Stephen Hayes	Horicon.
Johnsburgh	Daniel Sheehan	North Creek.
Luzerne	Hugh Clemons	Luzerne.
Queensbury	Edward L. Mills	Glens Falls.
Stony Creek	John E. Burdick	Stony Creek.
Thurman	David A. Green	Athol.
Warrensburgh	Thomas H. Crandall	Warrensburgh.

WASHINGTON COUNTY.

Argyle	Robert H. McIntyre	Argyle.
Cambridge	John Ford	Cambridge.
Dresden	Thomas Cooper	Dresden Centre.
Easton	George S. Allen	Easton.

WASHINGTON COUNTY — (*Continued*).

Town.	NAME.	Address.
Fort Ann.....	Albert C. Vaughn	Fort Ann.
Granville.....	G. A. Wells, Jr.	Granville.
Greenwich	John Alexander	Lake P. O.
Hampton	Aaron C. Boughton	Hampton.
Hartford	William Tolman	Hartford.
Hebron	George Rea	West Hebron.
Jackson.....	J. H. Cleveland.....	Salem.
Kingsbury	John Murphy	Sandy Hill.
Putnam	Robert H. Patterson.....	Ticonderoga.
Salem.....	Sylvanus Dickinson.....	Salem.
Whitehall	B. J. C. Senton	Whitehall.
White Creek	Romaine Bennett.....	White Creek.

Cancellations and Redemptions.

Since 1885, the year in which the lands in the Forest Preserve were turned over to the care and custody of this Department, the State has lost title to 123,980 acres of woodlands which were included in the scheduled list of lots printed from time to time in the appendices of our annual reports. These lands were lost through applications for cancellations and redemptions granted in the Comptroller's office during that period, the grants being made under the laws which enable applicants to avail themselves of legal technicalities or trifling errors of the assessors as grounds for obtaining lands that were abandoned years ago by their owners. The applicants, in most every instance, were persons who never owned the property, but who had obtained the old, abandoned title for a mere trifle, and who made some worthless deed good by obtaining a cancellation of the tax titles under which the State held these lands. In the case of cancellations they obtained the land often without even paying the back taxes, which, in case of errors in the proceedings prior to a sale, were assessed back on the town where the land was situated.

The laws governing tax sales, enacted many years ago, were drawn with the intention of favoring the taxpayer and offering every inducement and facility for regaining the land, which in those days the State authorities were only too glad to dispose of. Now that the State's policy is changed in regard to the forest lands obtained at tax sales, it is high time that its laws should be changed so as to protect the communal interest to which the public forests belong. The tax laws should be so amended that no application for cancellation, based on alleged irregularities on the part of the assessors or other officials prior to a sale, should be granted unless the applicant

can show that such error or irregularity was the cause of the failure to pay the tax.

For instance: a man considering his lands not worth the taxes due on them, will allow 20,000 acres of forest to be sold at a tax sale and revert to the State. After the State has held this land for twenty years or more, cared for it, and protected it at the public expense until it has enhanced in value greatly, some speculator will buy the abandoned deed for a mere trifle, and apply for a cancellation of the sale on the ground that the assessor, twenty-five years ago, made affidavit to his return on the second Tuesday of August instead of on the third Tuesday, as required by law; or, that the board of supervisors, in that year, adjourned before their clerk had extended the figures on his tax-roll; or allege some other trivial failure to comply with the method prescribed by law, none of which errors had anything to do with the reasons of the original owner for abandoning his land and refusing to pay the State what he owed for taxes. Still, the law requires that in such a case the sale shall be set aside, and that the applicant, who had previously obtained the old deed for a trifling sum, may have the property. Within eight years the State has lost \$400,000 worth of forests and lakes through applications based on similar reasons, claims which were legally correct but frivolous in the extreme, and unjust to the taxpayers at large to whom the property belonged.

Of the 123,980 acres lost since 1885, by the State, 8,179 acres were lost during the past year. Through a misunderstanding as to the powers and duties of this Department some have criticised the Forest Commission for this large decrease in the area of the Preserve. For this reason it may be well to mention here that the acquisition of lands through tax sales, and all cancellation or redemption of titles thus acquired, are wholly within the province of another department, this Commission having no powers whatever in the matter. .

At the same time we have endeavored to co-operate fully with the Comptroller in his efforts to contest the alleged evidence upon which many applications have been based, and have con-

tributed liberally out of our annual appropriations in securing the best legal talent for defending the State's title to the lands which have been intrusted to our care.

A list of the redemptions and cancellations during 1893* of the State's title to the lands hitherto under our charge has been furnished us through the courtesy of the Comptroller. It appears here in order that persons having the list of State lots, as printed in our former reports, may erase these from their list.

CANCELLATIONS IN 1893.

January 4, 1893.*—Essex County, Town of Minerva, Totten and Crossfield Purchase, Township 30, Lot 3. The State's title acquired at the Tax Sale of 1885 was cancelled on application of R. K. Hawley, President Adirondack Timber and Mineral Co., by J. M. Lawson, attorney and agent, on the ground that said land was owned by the Adirondack Co. and was exempt from taxation. Amount cancelled, 791 acres.

January 4, 1893.*—Essex County, Town of Keene, Totten and Crossfield Purchase, Township 45, Lot 48. The State's title acquired at the Tax Sale of 1885 was cancelled on application of R. K. Hawley, President of the Adirondack Timber and Mineral Co., by J. M. Lawson, attorney and agent, on the ground that said land was owned by the Adirondack Co., and was exempt from taxation for the years embraced in said sale. Amount cancelled, 406 acres.

February 9, 1893.—Warren County, Township of Warrensburgh, Goldthwaite's Patent. The State's title acquired at the Tax Sale of 1885 was cancelled, on application of Samuel Stanton and Albert Hall, on the ground that the land was assessed both as resident and non-resident land. Amount cancelled, 533 acres.

February 15, 1893.—Clinton County, Town of Altona, Refugee Tract, Lot 190. The State's title acquired at the Tax Sale of 1853 was cancelled on application of John W. Havens, on the ground that in the years 1847 and 1848 the land was assessed

* Does not include any cancellations of titles acquired at the tax sale of 1890.

† Granted December 19, 1892; but not included in our report for that year.

as non-resident, and that one David Vincent was living on the land at the time. Amount cancelled, 100 acres.

March 15, 1893.—Essex County, Town of Minerva, Totten and Crossfield Purchase, Township 26, Lot 103. The State's title acquired at the Tax Sales of 1877, 1881, and 1885, was cancelled on the application of the Adirondack Timber and Mineral Company on the grounds that the land was owned by the Adirondack Railroad Company, and was exempt from taxation. Amount cancelled, 136 acres.

March 15, 1893.—Franklin County, Town of Harrietstown, Macomb's Purchase, Great Tract 1, Township 23, S. W. 1-4. The State's title, acquired through the Tax Sale of 1881, was cancelled on application of the Adirondack Timber and Mineral Company, on the ground that the land was partly owned by the Adirondack Railroad Company and was exempt from taxation. Amount cancelled, 396 acres.

March 15, 1893.—Hamilton County, Town of Wells, Oxbow Tract, Lot 49. The State's title, acquired at the Tax Sale of 1885, was cancelled upon the application of the Adirondack Timber and Mineral Company, on the ground that the land was owned by the Adirondack Railroad Company and was exempt from taxation. Amount cancelled, 28 acres.

March 15, 1893.—Hamilton County, Town of Wells, Totten and Crossfield's Purchase, Township 1, S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$, Van Wagoner Tract, Lots 10 and 12. The State's title, acquired through the Tax Sales of 1881 and 1885, were cancelled on the application of the Adirondack Timber and Mineral Company, on the ground that the land was owned by the Adirondack Railroad Company and was exempt from taxation. Amount cancelled, 225 acres.

March 15, 1893.—Warren County, Town of Johnsburgh, Totten and Crossfield Purchase, Gore between Dartmouth Patent and Township 11, Lot 33. The State's title, acquired through the Tax Sale of 1885, was cancelled on the application of the Adirondack Timber and Mineral Company, on the ground that the land was owned by the Adirondack Railroad Company, and was exempt from taxation. Amount cancelled, 935 acres.

March 15, 1893.—Warren County, Town of Stony Creek, Palmer's Purchase, General Allotment, Lot 18. The State's title, acquired through the Tax Sale of 1885, was cancelled upon application of the Adirondack Timber and Mineral Company, upon the ground that the land was owned by the Adirondack Railroad Company and was exempt from taxation. Amount cancelled, 800 acres.

April 11, 1893.—Essex County, Town of North Elba, Old Military Tract, Township 12, Richards' Survey, Lot 35. The State's title, acquired at the Tax Sales of 1877, 1881, and 1885, was cancelled upon the application of the Adirondack Timber and Mineral Company, on the ground that the land was owned by the Adirondack Railroad Company, and was exempt from taxation. Amount cancelled, 1,458 acres.

April 14, 1893.—Franklin County, Town of Harriestown, Macomb's Purchase, Great Tract One, Township 27, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$, Lots 1 and 2. The State's title, acquired through the Tax Sales of 1893, was cancelled upon the application of George W. Ostrander & Son, Agents, Albany, N. Y., on the ground that the assessment-rolls of the town of Harriestown for the year 1877 was verified August 1, 1877, instead of on or after the third Tuesday in August. Amount cancelled, 585 acres.

June 27, 1893.—Hamilton County, Town of Benson, Benson Township, Lot 63, W. $\frac{1}{2}$. The State's title, acquired through the Tax Sales of 1881, was cancelled upon application of Loren W. Sloan, on the ground that the land had been assessed both as resident and non-resident. Amount cancelled, 80 acres.

July 7, 1893.—Hamilton County, Town of Lake Pleasant, Totten and Crossfield Purchase, Township 3, Lots 102, 123, and 143. The State's title, acquired through the Tax Sales of 1877, and 1885, was cancelled upon the application of P. J. Marsh, of Albany, N. Y., on the ground that the lots were erroneously described. Amount cancelled, 275 acres.

October 6, 1893.—Hamilton County, Town of Morehouse, Lawrence Patent, Lots 33 and 34. The State's title, acquired through the Tax Sales of 1877, 1881, and 1885, was cancelled upon the application of Geo. W. Ostrander & Son, of Albany,

N. Y., on the ground that part of the lot was assessed in the wrong town. Amount cancelled, 792 acres.

December 15, 1893.—Warren County, Town of Johnsburgh, Totten and Crossfield Purchase, Gore between Townships 29 and 31, Lot 11. The State's title, acquired through the Tax Sale of 1881, was cancelled upon application of George W. Ostrander & Son, of Albany, N. Y., on the ground that the land was assessed in the year 1872 both as resident and non-resident. Amount cancelled, 169 acres.

December 28, 1893.—Hamilton County, Town of Long Lake, Totten and Crossfield's Purchase, Township 41, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$. The State's title, acquired through the Tax Sales of 1881 and 1885, was cancelled upon the application of W. W. Durant, of Raquette Lake, N. Y., on the ground that the land in 1871 to 1872, inclusive, belonged to the Adirondack Company and was exempt from taxation. Amount cancelled, 468 acres.

Applications to tax State Lands for the erection of School-Houses.

In 1886 a law was passed authorizing the taxation* of State lands in the Forest Preserve "at a like valuation and rate as similar lands of individuals within the counties where situated." That a State should tax itself may seem on first thought an anomalous proceeding. But the act is an equitable and necessary one. In the Adirondack counties there are towns in which the State owns so large a proportion of the land that the roads, bridges, and schools could not otherwise be maintained. As the Forest Preserve was established for the benefit of the entire State it is proper that the people at large should pay the taxes the same as if the Preserve were owned by one or more individuals.

Upon the introduction of this bill in the Legislature of 1886, the Commissioners of this Department stipulated that "no tax for the erection of a school-house should be imposed on the State lands unless such erection shall have been first approved in writing by the Forest Commission." This provision was deemed prudent lest the residents of a school district might build school-houses which were either unnecessary or too expensive, induced by the fact that, owing to the large proportion of State land in the district, the main cost of the building would fall, not on the resident taxpayers, but on the State at large.

In carrying out this provision of the law the Commissioners have been careful to avoid any action which might retard the work of education, merely reserving the right to scrutinize in each case the land valuations, tax rate, proposed cost of building, and number of scholars to be accommodated.

* See Volume II, Forestry Law, Article VI, Par. 106.

Acting under the law, four applications for permission to tax State land for the erection of school-houses have been considered and granted during the year.

The school board of the town of Long Lake, Hamilton County, made an application through the Rev. Robert Shaw of that town, who wrote as follows:

LONG LAKE, N. Y., *November 22, 1892.*

The Forest Commission, Albany, N. Y. :

Gentlemen.—Yours of the 18th inst. is received. In reply thereto I will say:

First. The only lands belonging to the State are in Township 21, Totten and Crossfield's Purchase. The amount of land and the value has been taken from the town assessment-roll, a copy of which is filed in your office.

Second. The number of scholars attending the school is forty. There are more in the district who will attend when the new house is built. The old house is too small.

Third. You ask, how far is this school-house from other ones? There is one in District No. 4, two miles away; and one in District No. 1, three miles away.

I am unable just now to give the total amount of State tax. But I hope the State is able to pay its taxes if we poor people are.

Yours most respectfully,

ROBERT SHAW.

The following memoranda was filed with this application:

"Total amount to be assessed for building the new school-house will be \$2,500. Of this amount the State will have to pay \$241.20. Bonds payable annually for three years—\$800.32 each year—were issued by the town to provide for the cost of construction, of which the State's share per year will amount to \$80.32."

"The valuation of the land in this district is one dollar per acre, the State land being assessed in the same proportion as all other land."

"There are at present about forty scholars attending this school. The schools will be about three miles apart."

The Forest Commission granted this application at a meeting held March 8, 1893. The school-house thus erected is a small but handsome building, remarkably pretty and attractive in its design. The traveler passing through the Wilderness at this locality will be surprised, on emerging from the forest, to see here, in this remote spot, a school building whose appearance and appointments are not only superior to most school-houses throughout the State, but one that will rival any of its size, in the good taste displayed in its architecture.

Application for permission to tax State land for the erection of a school-house was also received from School District No. 2, Town of Brighton, Franklin County, in relation to which the following letters were received:

PAUL SMITH's, N. Y., *June 23, 1893.*

The Forest Commission, Albany, N. Y.:

Gentlemen.—Inclosed you will find a list of State lands lying in School District No. 2, Town of Brighton, Franklin County, which I ask permission to tax for the purpose of building a new school-house in said district. Our district is small, and therefore we ask you for help in building the school-house. I remain,

Yours respectfully,

ABNER TYLER,

Trustee, School District No. 2, Brighton, N. Y.

MALONE, N. Y., *July 1, 1893.*

The Forest Commission, Albany, N. Y.:

Gentlemen.—For five years School District No. 2, of the Town of Brighton, County of Franklin, has been struggling for a new school-house. They have at last succeeded in building a house at a cost of little over \$1,000. The house was built under my earnest request and approval. There is some State land in the district. Will you not consent that such land should be included in the property to be assessed for the building of the house?

I certify that the new building was essential, and I should have condemned the old house if they had not voted to build the new. The tax to the State will be small, not to exceed about \$50. Last year the 4,756 acres of State land in the district was assessed for \$870, on a total valuation of the district of about \$20,000. Kindly do this at once, and oblige,

Yours truly,

M. E. McCLARY,

School Commissioner.

At a meeting of the Forest Commission, held August 1, 1893, the foregoing application from the Town of Brighton was granted:

Similar application was also made by School District No. 10, Town of Bolton, Warren County, in support of which the following statement was made in reply to the letter of inquiry sent by Secretary McCreedy.

BOLTON LANDING, N. Y., *September 16, 1893.*

The Forest Commission, Albany, N. Y.:

Gentlemen.—In reply to your last communication I would say that the number of acres of State land in our district is 1,928, with an assessed valuation of \$1,265. The amount of tax the State will have to pay will be \$21.88. The total valuation of the district is \$26,290. The cost of the school-house will be \$432. The total amount of tax to be raised under this warrant is \$455. The number of children attending the school is eleven. Inclosed you will find the required recommendation.

Yours respectfully,

WILLIAM E. NORTON,

Trustee.

Mr. Norton inclosed a copy of the order issued by J. F. Wells, School Commissioner of Warren County, condemning the school-house in District No. 8, in which the Commissioner certifies that he has made an examination of the building and found it in very bad condition, the frame being rotten, and the roof leaking through decay. He certifies further that in his

opinion the sum of \$400 would be necessary to erect a school-house capable of accommodating the children of the district. The Forest Commission, on October 10, 1893, granted permission to tax the State lands in that district for a just and proportionate share of the expense incurred in the erection of the desired school-house.

A further application of similar character was made in behalf of School District No. 1, Town of Duane, Franklin County, in support of which the following letter was received:

MALONE, N. Y., *September 27, 1893.*

To the Honorable the Forest Commission, Albany, N. Y.:

Gentlemen.—In District No. 1, Duane, Franklin County, the people have been obliged to build a branch school-house at an expense of \$200. In this district there are about 9,200 acres of State land, valued at \$24,000. The amount that the State will have to pay towards the school-house is about \$17. Will you kindly allow this to be done? I personally directed the house to be built, and know the need.

Yours respectfully.

M. E. McCLARY,

School Commissioner, First District, Franklin County.

At a meeting of the Forest Commission held October 10, 1893, a resolution was passed granting the desired permission, and the Secretary was instructed to notify the School Commissioner of the same.

Sales and Purchases of Land.

Pursuant to chapter 707, Laws of 1892, the Forest Commission established the Adirondack Park and defined its boundaries. The line adopted was the result of a personal examination of the ground, combined with a careful, thoughtful consideration of all the questions involved. It included, substantially, all of the Adirondack forest, except some projecting spurs of woodland that reached out, here and there, into the farming regions, and certain scattered, isolated patches of woods which were in no way contiguous to the main forest. It must be evident to all that no satisfactory line could be established which would include all such tracts; for such a line would be irregular in the extreme, and would necessitate a costly survey. The line adopted involved no survey, as it was run along well-known boundaries which, to a great extent, coincided with the border of the Wilderness.

This line includes a solid forest area of 2,807,760 acres, a territory greater than that of the State of Connecticut, and large enough certainly to answer all the forestal requirements of that part of our State. Outside this line the State owned scattered, isolated parcels of land, aggregating 180,236 acres, scattered through eleven different counties. With few exceptions, these outlying lands had been cut over by the lumbermen. A large part of them are now waste lands, devoid of forest covering and overgrown with low bushes or some scrubby growth. Some of these lots have been completely denuded by fire; some are wild pastures, or covered with huckleberry bushes.*

* A few outlying tracts, however, are covered with primeval forest, notably those near Ragged Lake and DeBar Mountain; but they are wholly disconnected from the main forest and the watershed of any important river.

The law authorizes the sale of these scattered, outlying parcels, and the application of the proceeds to the purchase of forest lands within the Adirondack Park. It provides that:

"The proceeds of all such sales shall be paid to the Treasurer of the State, and shall be held by him in a separate fund and as a special deposit which shall at all times be available to the Forest Commission for the purpose of purchasing lands situated within the towns mentioned in Section Two of this Act, at such price per acre as may be determined by the Forest Commission and approved by the Commissioners of the Land Office."*

It must be conceded that the 180,366 acres of State land situated outside the line, and scattered through eleven counties, would be better located if placed within the mountain region, where they would serve to protect the sources of the Hudson, Black, and Raquette Rivers and other important streams. It is evident, also, that these scattered parcels could be protected from fire and thieves much better if the 180,366 acres were in one solid block, well within the Adirondack forest, than if scattered along its edge and in over 300 different parcels, as is the case.

Assuming this to be a sound policy, this Department has sold these outside lots whenever a price could be realized that would justify their sale, and with the proceeds thus obtained have purchased lands within the main forest, each transaction resulting in an improved location and increased acreage. This increase in acreage was due to the fact that although some of these lots were wild lands or poorly forested, they were sought for by farmers or others living in the immediate vicinity, for farming lands, wood lots, building sites, or various purposes. In one case an eighth of an acre, in Fulton County, without a tree or bush on it, brought \$150 because it was necessary to protect the water power of a grist mill near by; and so, for this one-eighth of an acre of denuded land the State received in

*The Commissioners of the Land Office whose approval is necessary to every sale and purchase thus made are: the Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller, Treasurer, Attorney-General, the State Engineer and Surveyor, and the Speaker of the Assembly.

time 100 acres of good hard wood forest in the Hudson watershed.

If, as in some cases, the lands sold were covered with forests, the price demanded was high enough to secure with the proceeds a well forested tract inside the Park, much better located, and with three times the acreage of the one sold. Some lands, though outside of and remote from the main forest, were covered with a merchantable tree growth, and, in such cases, it seemed advisable to hold them; but having laid down a definite policy as to the sale of outside lands it was deemed better to adhere to it without deviation or exception in favor of any particular tract, especially as it was difficult to determine just which ones should be retained and which sold.

The State lands within the main forest or Park are badly scattered. They are distributed over the map like the squares of a checker-board, and are thickly interspersed with private holdings. Scattered as they are, it is difficult for the small number of Foresters at our command to patrol them thoroughly. If the lands were consolidated the territory could be patrolled much easier and at less expense; and, guarded better from fire and thieves. As now located the lands are scattered through a territory of over 5,000 square miles, with only twelve Foresters to patrol them. What wonder is it if under such circumstances the timber thieves embraced the opportunities thus afforded them.

We again protest against the persistent misrepresentation indulged in by certain parties who, through ignorance or design, continually allude to these land sales in a manner calculated to deceive the public as to the real nature of the transaction and as to the objects attained. It is persistently urged by them that this Department is selling the State lands, "peddling" off the forests, parting with many acres of the Preserve, and dissipating the "God-given heritage," of the people. They intentionally conceal the fact that it is substantially an exchange, not a sale of lands; that for every acre sold there must be one, or more, bought; that better location is in every case obtained; and that the transactions all tend to the consolidation and better

management of the Forest Preserve. They never allow their hearers to know that the proceeds are available only for the purchase of other forest lands, and that every one of the so-called sales results in an increase in the area of the Forest Preserve.

Originally, this Department conducted these exchanges of land under what was known as the Hadley Act, of 1887, pursuant to which the exchanges were made direct, lot for lot, acre for acre, under appraisal made by sworn appraisers appointed by the courts. But this method proved ill-adapted to the interests of the State, besides being slow and cumbersome. The Hadley Act was repealed and the present law substituted, by which the exchanges are made through the medium of sales and purchases.

No outlying lands are sold until they have been duly advertised in the county papers, after which the lots are awarded under sealed bids, to the highest bidder. But the Forest Commission does not sell all the lands for which bids are made. Reserving the right to reject any or all bids it has declined to sell oftener than it has made sales, the prices bid not being high enough to enable the Commission to secure the desired increase in acreage.

It should be understood that the Forest Commission does not sell any lands itself. Under the law, it can only recommend a sale, which must then be approved by the Land Commissioners, after which the Comptroller makes the sale or transfer.

The lands lying outside the Park line are mostly inferior tracts; they are largely composed of waste and barren plains, denuded by fire, or bare of timber. The majority of them are many miles from the Adirondack forest, and, with one exception, are broken up into over 300 little patches.

The location of these scattered lots, obtained as they were through tax sales, was a matter of accident, not design. Is it reasonable to assume that lands thus located by chance are better situated than if placed in accordance with some intelligent plan?

LANDS PURCHASED BY THE STATE WITHIN THE ADIRONDACK PARK,
WITH THE PROCEEDS OF SALES OF OUTLYING LANDS.

NAMES.	Lot.	Township.	County.	Acres.	Price per acre.
Underwood & Marsh.....	1	26	Essex	220	\$1 50
do	8	26	do	240	1 50
do	10	26	do	210	1 50
do	11	26	do	240	1 50
do	14	26	do	200	1 50
do	19	26	do	220	1 50
do	81	26	do	160	1 50
do	84	26	do	160	1 50
do	87	26	do	210	1 50
do	89	26	do	200	1 50
do	42	26	do	200	1 50
do	47	26	do	200	1 50
do	50	26	do	200	1 50
do	56	26	do	200	1 50
do	69	26	do	200	1 50
do	78	26	do	222	1 50
do	79	26	do	244	1 50
do	85	26	do	248	1 50
do	88	26	do	286	1 50
do	91	26	do	286	1 50
do	107	26	do	286	1 50
do	113	26	do	108½	1 50
do	116	26	do	286	1 50
do	119	26	do	286	1 50
Janet R. Martens	80	26	do	50	1 50
Noble Heath, Jr.	117	26	do	56	1 50
Patrick Moynahan	10	27	do	68	1 50
do	11	27	do	68	1 50
do	12	27	do	68	1 50
do	13	27	do	68	1 50
do	14	27	do	68	1 50
do	26	27	do	160	1 50
do	27	27	do	160	1 50
do	87	27	do	160	1 50
Charles B. Resiguie	19	Palmer's.	Warren	1049	1 50

LANDS SOLD BY THE STATE, THE PROCEEDS OF WHICH WERE REINVESTED IN THE PURCHASE OF FOREST LANDS.

PURCHASER.	Lot.	Township.	County.	Acres.	Price per acre.
W. W. Wheeler	65	8 O. M. T.	Franklin	640	\$5 57
do	66	8 "	do	640	5 57
do	85	8 "	do	868	5 57
do	86	8 "	do	480	5 57
do	87	8 "	do	640	5 57
M. V. B. Turner	186	10 "	do	200	3 55
do	255	10 "	do	200	6 00
Ferd. W. Chase	219	10 "	do	200	8 00
Leonard & Smith	227	10 "	do	200	3 50
do	266	10 "	do	200	6 50
do	267	10 "	do	150	5 00
do	268	10 "	do	200	4 00
P. Moynahan	1	14 T. & C.P.	Warren	178	3 05
do	2	14 "	do	150	3 05
do	3	14 "	do	112	3 05
do	4	14 "	do	150	3 05
do	5	14 "	do	150	3 05
do	6	14 "	do	150	3 05
do	7	14 "	do	150	3 05
do	8	14 "	do	150	3 05
do	9	14 "	do	150	3 05
do	10	14 "	do	112	3 05
do	11	14 "	do	116	3 05
do	12	14 "	do	178	3 05
do	29	12 "	do	288	2 10
do	25	24 "	do	420	1 50
do	78	Hyde Patent...	do	196	1 60
do .....	.....	Goldthwaite...	do	467	2 60
George F. Underwood	18	N. R. Head...	Essex	160	3 50
do	14	do	do	160	3 50
do	22	do	do	160	3 50
do	14	R'g Brook Tr..	do	240	3 50
do	51	do	do	260	3 50
John M. Peters	44	Chase's Patent.	Fulton	100	2 55
do	34	G. B. & L.	do	200	2 10
C. A. McArthur	2	18 M. P.	Franklin	328	2 00
do	13	18 "	do	328	2 00
Benton Turner	37	18 "	do	175	2 50
do	38	18 "	do	174	2 50
do	39	18 "	do	174	2 50
do	46	18 "	do	178	2 50
J. W. Olmstead	39	J. Glen	Saratoga	112	2 03
do	48	G. & Y. Pt....	do	105	1 57
do	35	Palmer's	do	209	1 62
do	1	Jerseyfield	Fulton	.....	*150 00
E. M. Merrill	256	10	Franklin	200	3 00
R. E. Bowler	37	Chase's Patent.	Fulton	50	3 25
P. J. Marsh	91	Mayfield Pat't.	do	40	2 10
do	106	do	do	17	2 60
Mary F. Crenay	3	Kayd's Pat....	Saratoga	55	1 50
Herman J. Carpenter	35	G. B. & L.	Fulton	383	1 66
do	38	Sanders' Pat't.	Saratoga	101	1 76
do	39	do	do	32	1 76
Harvey Hodge .....	.....	Kayd's Pat ...	do	4,516	1 85

For one-eighth of an acre.

LANDS SOLD BY THE STATE, THE PROCEEDS OF WHICH WERE REIN-
VESTED IN THE PURCHASE OF FOREST LANDS — (*Continued*).

PURCHASER.	Lot.	Township.	County.	Acres.	Price per acre.
Louis Thompson.....	8	Dartmouth Pt.	Warren.	62½	\$4 05
M. V. B. Turner	185	10 O. M. T.	Franklin	200	2 00
John Laughlin.....	118	Peru Bay Tr...	Essex ...	459	1 50
Richard Christian.....	106	Iron Ore Tract.	do ...	81	2 50
W. H. Greeley	118	Brantingham..	Lewis...	100	3 05
John Murtagh	48	do ..	do ...	209	1 60
E. W. Hubbard	812	do ..	do ...	90	4 05
Matthew Gavan.....	6	do ..	do ...	240	1 06



B. R. Stoddard, Photo.

SUMMIT ROCK, SLIDE MOUNTAIN.
Highest Point in the Catskills.

TRACTS AND PATENTS

OF

NORTHERN NEW YORK

IN WHICH

The Lands of the Forest Preserve are Situated.



TRACTS AND PATENTS.

In addition to its regular forestry work this Department has, by reason of the extensive purchases and sales of land intrusted to it by the Legislature, found itself involved to a considerable extent in business of a real estate character. In all its land transactions and establishment of forest areas, the work is based upon and inseparably connected with the lines of the old tracts and patents of Northern New York. In the course of this work, the lands administered upon are seldom referred to in connection with the town or county in which they are situated, but are almost invariably described by the tract or patent in which they are located, together with the numerical designation of the lot or township.

In Northern New York, especially in the forest region, there is a broad distinction between a town and a township. The towns are the political divisions constituting a county, while the townships represent the areas laid out by the old surveyors in their subdivisions of the original tracts or land grants. In some of the larger patents these townships made by the surveyors are numbered, and have no other designation, as is the case in the Totten and Crossfield Purchase. In others, noticeably the Macomb Purchase, the surveyors not only gave a township a number, but also a name. This giving a name to a township as well as a number is apt to be confusing when this peculiar state of affairs is not fully understood. In St. Lawrence and Herkimer Counties there are large towns, corresponding to the towns of other counties throughout the State, which contain within their boundaries several townships, each township with a different name.

These tracts, patents, and early surveys enter so largely into the land business of this Department that it is deemed advisable to embody in this report the history of the more important ones, showing their origin, location, and extent, together with such items of colonial or early history as might be of general interest. Having given a history of the original title to a tract, it would be interesting to still further trace the transmission of such title through the various owners until it fell into the possession of the State and became a part of the Forest Preserve. But lack of space will not permit any mention other than that of the original title and the facts connected with it.

Accompanying this volume will be found a map showing the location of all the old tracts and patents in that part of New York lying north of the Mohawk river. It will prove a valuable aid to persons desirous of information regarding the location and boundaries of the various tracts in which the lands of the Forest Preserve are situated.

LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL TRACTS, PATENTS, AND LAND GRANTS IN NORTHERN NEW YORK, GRANTED BY THE COLONIAL GOVERNMENT.

NAME OF PATENT.	County.	Year.	Acres.	Patentee.
Amherst Tract	Hamilton ...	1774	20,000	Sir Jeffrey Amherst.
Argyle Patent	Washington. 1764		47,450	Duncan Reid.
Artillery Patent	Washington. 1764		24,000	Joseph Walton.
Bayard's Patent	Oneida*	1771	50,000	W. and R. Bayard.†
Beekmantown Patent...	Clinton	1769	30,000	Wm. H. Beekman.
Bradshaw's Patent.....	Washington. 1763		23,000	James Bradshaw.
Cambridge Patent	Washington. 1761		81,500	Colden, Banyar & Co.
Cosby's Manor.....	Oneida	1784	23,000	Joseph Worrell.
Coxe's Patent	Oneida	1770	76,000	Daniel Coxe.
Dartmouth Patent.....	Warren	1774	47,000	Jere. Van Rensselaer
Dean's Patent	Clinton	1769	30,000	Elkanah Dean.
Glen's Purchase	Saratoga	1770	45,000	John Glen, Jr.
Greenwich Patent	Washington. 1763		10,000	Donald Campbell.
Hasenclever Patent. ...	Herkimer	1769	18,000	Peter Hasenclever.
Holland Patent	Oneida	1769	20,000	Lord Henry Holland
Hyde Township.....	Warren	1774	40,000	Hyde & Jessup.
Jerseyfield Patent	Herkimer* ..	1770	94,000	Henry Glen.
Jessup's Purchase.....	Warren	1768	13,650	Ebenezer Jessup.
Kayaderoseras Patent..	Saratoga*	1708	.....	NanningHeermansse
Kempe's Patent	Washington. 1764		10,300	John Kempe.
Kingsboro Patent.....	Fulton	1763	20,000	Arent Stevens.
Kingsbury Patent	Washington. 1763		26,000	James Bradshaw.
Livingston Patent	Montgomery* 1763		20,000	Philip Livingston.
Lott's Patent	Fulton	1761	20,000	Abraham Lott, Jr.
Lyne's Patent	Herkimer	1764	20,000	John Lyne.
Magin's Patent	Fulton	1761	6,000	Sarah Magin.
Mayfield Patent	Fulton*	1770	.....	.....
Ord's Patent	Essex	1775	5,000	Thomas Ord.
Preston Patent	Hamilton ...	1770	14,000	Achilles Preston.
Queensbury Patent	Warren	1763	23,000	Daniel Prindle.
Royal Grant	Herkimer	1765	98,000	Sir Wm. Johnson.
Sacandaga Patent	Fulton*	1741	28,000	Lendert Gansevoort
Salem Patent	Washington. 1764		25,000	Alex. & Jas. Turner.
Schuyler Patent	Herkimer* ..	1755	48,000	David Schuyler.
Skeneboro Patent.....	Washington. 1765		25,000	Philip Skene.
Stewart's Patent.....	Hamilton ...	1755	24,000	James Stewart.
Stone Arabia Patent...	Fulton	1723	12,700	John C. Garlock.
Totten and Crossfield ...	Hamilton* ..	1773	1,150,000	Jos. Totten and others.
Van Rensselaer Patent..	Saratoga	1774	28,964	Jere. Van Rensselaer
Walton's Patent.....	Herkimer ...	1768	12,000	William Walton.

* And adjoining county or counties.

† Known also as the "Freemason's Patent."

LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL TRACTS, PATENTS AND LAND GRANTS IN
NORTHERN NEW YORK GRANTED BY THE STATE.

NAME OF TRACT.	County.	Year.	Acres.	Patentee.
Adgate's Patent	Herkimer . . .	1798	48,907	Matthew Adgate.
Arthurboro Patent	Herkimer . . .	1787	47,360	Arthur Noble.
Bailey's Patent	Essex	1806	8,000	John Bailey.
Benson Township	Hamilton . . .	1795	61,920	Egbert Benson.
Bergen's Purchase	Hamilton* . .	1785	19,589	John Bergen.
Brant Lake Tract.	Warren	1808	38,496	254 lots.†
Chase's Patent	Fulton	1792	12,000	William Chase.
Dominick's Patent	Essex	1789	12,600	Francis Dominick.
Duerville Patent	Clinton	1789	39,692	William Duer et al.
French Mountain Tract	Warren	1810	5,918	48 lots.†
Glen, Bleecker & Lansing	Fulton	1794	89,297	Cornelius Glen et al.
Hague Tract	Warren* . . .	1817	10,212	62 lots.†
Hoffman Patent	Essex	1795	25,200	Anthony Hoffman's heirs.
Iron Ore Tract	Essex	1810	34,380	234 lots.†
Jay Tract	Essex*	1814	33,534	160 lots.†
Lawrence Patent	Hamilton . . .	1791	85,560	Jonathan Lawrence.
Luzerne Tract	Warren	1810	23,826	178 lots.†
Macomb's Purchase	St. Lawrence* .	1792	3,984,899	Alexander Macomb.
Maule's Patent	Essex	1800	42,969	Thomas Maule.
Moose River Tract	Herkimer* . .	1820	222,680	10 townships.
North River Head Tract	Essex	1807	19,500	140 lots.†
Old Military Tract	Clinton* . . .	1785	665,000	12 townships.†
Oxbow Tract	Hamilton . . .	1811	64,671	296 lots.
Nobleboro Patent	Herkimer . . .	1787	40,960	Arthur Noble.
Palmer's Purchase	Warren* . . .	1788	135,000	Thomas Palmer.
Paradox Tract	Essex	1807	70,000	428 lots.†
Peru Bay Tract	Essex	1811	23,179	130 lots.†
Refugee Tract	Clinton	1788	281,540	416 lots.†
Remsenburgh Patent	Herkimer . . .	1787	48,000	Henry Remsen.
Road Patent	Essex	1794	9,867	Platt Rogers.
Roaring Brook Tract	Essex	1817	21,274	86 lots.†
Schroon Tract	Essex	1808	17,811	111 lots.†
Tongue Mountain Tract	Warren	1815	11,918	52 lots.†
Warrensburgh Tract	Warren	1816	8,971	22 lots.†
West of Road Patent	Essex	1810	28,000	205 lots.†
White Face Mt. Tract	Essex*	1814	10,042	6 lots.†
Woodhull Tract	Herkimer . . .	....	40,000	53 lots.†
Vrooman's Patent	Herkimer . . .	1786	14,198	Isaac Vrooman.

* And adjoining county or counties.

† Sold to various persons lot by lot.

MACOMB'S PURCHASE.

The largest land grant made by the State at any time was located in Northern New York, and is the one known as Macomb's Purchase. As indicated by its name, it was not a grant strictly, but a sale. The price paid was eight pence per acre. Although the tract took its name from Alexander Macomb, two other persons, Daniel McCormick and William Constable, were associated with him in the enterprise and appear to have been jointly interested as owners. The purchase was made January 10, 1792. It comprised 3,934,899 acres, extending over most of the territory now included in Franklin, St. Lawrence, Lewis, Jefferson, Oswego, and Herkimer counties.

Macomb's Purchase was subdivided into parts designated as Great Tracts, which were numbered from 1 to 6. Their areas were:

Great Tract I, 821,879 acres, Franklin County; Great Tract II, 553,020 acres, St. Lawrence County; Great Tract III, 640,000 acres, St. Lawrence County; Great Tract IV, 450,950 acres, Lewis and Jefferson Counties; Great Tract V, 26,250 acres, Lewis, Jefferson, and Herkimer Counties; Great Tract VI, 74,400 acres, Lewis, Jefferson, and Herkimer Counties, Remainder, 1,368,400 acres; total, 3,934,899 acres.

The division line between Great Tracts V and VI was never run, and they have never been recognized in land sales, being included in the Remainder.

The patents for Great Tracts IV, V, VI, and Remainder (1,920,000 acres) were made to Alexander Macomb, January 10, 1792; while the patent for Great Tract III was made to Daniel McCormick, March 3, 1792, followed by patents to McCormick, also, of Great Tracts I and II, on May 17, 1798. As to just when and where William Constable entered into the transaction does not appear on the records. He must have been associated with Macomb at the start, because his name appears in connection with some sales which were made soon after the territory was acquired. The land was placed on the market immediately.

The Boylston Tract, comprising 817,155 acres, in Jefferson, Lewis, and Oswego Counties, was sold to Samuel Ward, December 18, 1792. On February 20, 1793, the Brantingham Tract, 74,000 acres, and the Inman Triangle, 25,000 acres, both in Lewis County, were sold to William Inman. In the same year the Chassanis Tract, containing 210,000 acres, was sold to Peter Chassanis. In 1795, the Black River Tract, containing 290,376 acres, in Jefferson and Lewis, was sold to Harrison, Hoffman, Low, and Henderson. In 1796 the Watson Tract of 61,433 acres, in Lewis and Herkimer Counties, was sold to James Watson; and in 1797, one Marvel Ellis bought 52,834 acres, the tract which now forms the town of Ellisburgh, in Jefferson County. About this time also a tract known as Constable's Towns, embracing five towns in Lewis County, was sold to James Constable.

The patent for Great Tract III was dated March 3, 1795; while the patents for Great Tracts I and II bear date of May 17, 1798. This would indicate that although the purchases covered a period of six years, the tracts were numbered at some time subsequent to the close of the purchasing. The first purchases were made in Lewis County, but Great Tract I is located principally in Franklin, and the other tracts are numbered from that westward. Many of the towns bear names derived from the families of the original grantees. Harrietstown, in Franklin County, was named from a daughter of William Constable, and the town of Duane from her husband, James Duane. The town of Pierrepont, in St. Lawrence County, was named after Hezekiah B. Pierrepont, the executor of William B. Constable's estate.

Alexander Macomb, from whom the great purchase took its name, was the father of Major General Alexander Macomb, who commanded the American forces at the battle of Plattsburgh, in the War of 1812, and who subsequently became the Commander-in-Chief of the United States Army.

Although Macomb was the most prominent man in this enterprise, his connection with it seems to have been of short dura-

tion. He became insolvent soon after, the principal part of the territory passing into the ownership of William Constable, one of his partners.

Constable was a man of wealth and good social position, who had served as an officer in the War of the Revolution, on the staff of General Lafayette. After the war he was largely engaged in commercial pursuits in New York, London, and Paris. Upon the acquisition of this large tract in Northern New York, he seems to have become prominently identified with the further resales and management of the so-called Macomb's Purchase. The town of Constable in Franklin County, and village of Constableville, in Lewis County, still bear his name as a reminder of the man who was the largest landowner in the history of this State.

In the minutes of the Commissioners of the Land Office for the State of New York, January 22, 1791, we find that:

"The application of Alexander Macomb, for the purchase of the following tracts of land was read, and is in the words following, viz.:

Acres 3,635,200; £121,173, 6s. 8d.

To the Commissioners of the Land Office of the State of New York:

Gentlemen.—I take the liberty of requesting to withdraw my application to your honorable board of April last, and to substitute the following proposal for the purchase of the waste and unappropriated lands, comprised within the bounds herein mentioned, and all the islands belonging to this State in front of said lands, viz.: Beginning at the northwest corner of the township called Hague, on the river St. Lawrence, and thence extending southerly along the westerly bounds of said township, and the township called Cambray, to the most southerly corner of the latter, thence extending easterly, northerly and southerly along the lines of said township Cambray, and of the townships of De Kalb, Canton, Potsdam and Stockholm, to the easternmost corner of the latter; thence northwesterly along the line of said township of Stockholm, and the township of Louisville, to the river St. Lawrence; thence along the shore thereof to the line, run for the north line of this State, in the 45th degree of north latitude; thence east along the same to the west bounds of the tract formerly set apart as bounty lands for the troops of this State, serving in the army of the United States; thence southerly along the same to the north bounds of the tract known by the name of Totten and Crossfield's purchase; thence westerly along the north bounds of the tract last mentioned to the westernmost corner thereof; thence southerly

along the southwesterly bounds thereof to the most westerly corner of township number five in said tract; thence westerly on a direct line to the northwesternmost corner of the tracts granted to Oothout; thence westerly on a direct line to the mouth of Salmon river where it empties into Lake Ontario; thence northeasterly along the shore of said lake, and the river St. Lawrence to the place of beginning, including all the islands belonging to this State, fronting the said tract in Lake Ontario and the river St. Lawrence, five per cent to be deducted for highways, and all lakes whose area exceeds one thousand acres to be also deducted,* from which, after the above deductions, I will give eight pence per acre, to be paid in the following manner, to wit, one-sixth part of the purchase-money at the end of one year from the day on which this proposal shall be accepted, and the residue in five equal installments on the same day, in the five next succeeding years. The first payment to be secured by bond, to the satisfaction of your honorable board, and if paid on the time limited and new bonds to the satisfaction of the board executed for another sixth of the purchase-money, then I shall be entitled to a patent for one-sixth part of said tract, to be set off in a square in one of the corners thereof, and the same rule to be observed as to the payments and securities and grants or patents, until the contract shall be fully completed. But if at any time I shall think fit to anticipate the payments; in whole or in part, in that case I am to have a deduction on the sum so paid, of an interest at the rate of six per cent, per annum, for the time I shall have paid any such sum before the time hereinbefore stipulated. I have the honor to be, gentlemen, with great respect, your most obedient servant."

"ALEXANDER MACOMB."

(Interest rate 6 per cent.)

"New York, May 2, 1791.

"I do hereby consent and agree that the islands called Carlton's or Buck's islands in the entrance of Lake Ontario, and the Au Long Saut, in the river St. Lawrence, and a tract equal to six miles square in the vicinity of the village of St. Regis, be excepted out of the above contract, and to remain the property of the State. Provided, always, that if the said tract shall not be hereafter applied for the use of the Indians of the said village, that then same shall be considered as included in this contract, and that I shall be entitled to a grant to the same, on my performance of the stipulations aforesaid.

"Signed.) "ALEXANDER MACOMB."

(Marked, Accepted.)

* It is claimed by many that this deduction by Macomb of "all lakes whose area exceeds one thousand acres" gives to the State the present ownership of all the islands in the following lakes and ponds:—Cranberry, Big Tupper, The Saranacs, St. Regis, Bonaparte, Big Moose, and Fulton Chain Lakes, and Jenkins and Amperand Ponds. The letter containing this offer to make the deduction is referred to in the patent which Macomb received from the State.

Great Tract One was originally laid out by the surveyor in twenty-seven townships. As explained before, these townships were not towns, nor had they any connection whatever with the towns which were subsequently erected in that same territory, except that in many instances the township boundaries were used in defining the town lines. The townships were, as far as practicable, equal in size, and contained about 32,000 acres each. No change has been made in their boundaries, and at the present time their areas and locations are the same as when their lines were originally surveyed.

Great Tract One is located wholly in Franklin County, its area being that which is now included in the fifteen towns of Constableville, Westville, Moira, Bangor, Malone, Dickinson, Brandon, Duane, Waverly, Santa Clara, Brighton, Altamont, Harrietstown, and portions of Bombay and Fort Covington. This tract was originally laid out by the surveyor into twenty-seven townships, which were not only numbered but named. For convenience in reference they are given here, and were as follows: 1, Macomb; 2, Cormachus; 3, Constable; 4, Moira; 5, Bangor; 6, Malone; 7, Annastown; 8, St. Patrick; 9, Shelah; 10, Williamsville; 11, Westerville; 12, Ewerettville; 13, Dayton; 14, Ennis; 15, Fowler; 16, John's Manor; 17, Gilchrist; 18, Brighton; 19, Cheltingham; 20, Margate; 21, Harrietstown; 22, Lough-neagh; 23, Killarney; 24, Barrymore; 25, Mount Morris; 26, Cove Hill; 27, Tipperary.

Great Tract Number Two is all in St. Lawrence County, and embraces the three eastern tiers of townships. The original townships, which have remained unchanged, were named and numbered as follows: 1, Sherwood; 2 Oakham; 3, Atherton; 4, Harewood; 5, Jamestown; 6, Piercefield; 7, Granshue; 8, Hollywood; 9, Kildare; 10, Matildaville; 11, Wick; 12, Riversdale; 13, Cookham; 14, Catherinesville; 15, Islington; 16, Chesterfield; 17, Grange; 18, Crumack. The southern townships in this tract are still known, locally, by their names rather than by their numbers. The county towns within which these townships are situated are: Brasher, Lawrence, Hopkinton, Parishville, and Colton.

Great Tract Number Three is also entirely in St. Lawrence County, and adjoins Great Tract Two on the west. This tract was divided by the surveyor into fifteen townships: 1, Hammond; 2, Sommerville; 3, De Witt; 4, Fitzwilliam; 5, Ballybeen; 6, Clare; 7, Kilkenny; 8, Edwards; 9, Sarahsburg; 10, Clifton; 11, Pontaferry; 12, Scriba; 13, Chaumont; 14, Bloomfield; 15, Emilyville. As in Great Tract Two, the southern townships are known by their names, mention of the numbers being seldom made in business matters pertaining to them. These townships are included in the ten towns of Hammond, Rossie, Fowler, Hermon, Edwards, Pitcairn, Russell, Fine, Pierrepont, Clare, and Clifton.

Great Tract Four is situated in Herkimer, Lewis, and Jefferson Counties. Great Tract Five occupies parts of Herkimer, Lewis, Jefferson, and Oswego Counties. Great Tract Six is located in Oswego, Lewis, and Herkimer Counties. A portion of Great Tract Five was laid out by the surveyor into townships, but as this territory lies for the most part in what is now a settled farming region, reference is seldom made in business matters to the old township numbers. In designating localities the names of the towns are used instead.

Great Tracts Four, Five, and Six were soon subdivided into other tracts and purchases which, by reason of their size, have become as well known as the original purchase of Macomb. Within the original boundary of the Macomb Purchase are situated the Boylston Tract, the Chassanis Tract, Brown's Tract, the Brantingham Tract, Inman's Triangle, Moose River Tract, and Watson's Triangles, all of which at one time were part of Great Tracts Four, Five, and Six, of Macomb's Purchase.

The sale of such enormous tracts of land at a merely nominal price attracted public notice throughout the State, and the occasion was not lost by the opponents of the State administration to charge the Land Commissioners with the basest motives of personal gain, and even with treason itself. On the 20th of April, 1792, Dr. Josiah Pomeroy, of Kinderhook, made oath to his belief from hearsay, that a company, planned by

William Smith, Jr., Sir John Johnson and others, chiefly Tories living in Canada, had been formed under the auspices of Lord Dorchester as early as 1789, to purchase an extensive tract of land upon the St. Lawrence, with the ultimate design of annexing it to Canada, and that Gov. George Clinton was privy to their scheme, and interested in the result.* To this absurd charge the Governor's friends opposed a letter of Gen. Schuyler, and the affidavits of Macomb and McCormick, fully denying any direct or indirect interest of the Governor in the purchase. In the Assembly a series of violent resolutions was offered by Col. Talbot, of Montgomery, evidently designed as the basis of an impeachment; but, after a most searching investigation, that body cleared the Commissioners of blame and commended their course. Aaron Burr, then Attorney-General, was absent at the time of the sale, and escaped censure at the time, but in his after career he was directly charged with basely selling his influence to obtain the grant. The clamor against the Governor was raised for political effect, and had its influence on the next election.

From letters of these negotiators it appears that the immense purchase was the fruit of years of preliminary management, and allusions to some great operation as early as 1786 have reference, no doubt, to these events, which appear to have originated with Constable. With a keen eye to the public interests, the very parties who had secured this tract, influenced the passage of a law in 1794, fixing the minimum price of the remaining 2,000,000 acres of the public lands at six shillings per acre, thereby giving this value to their own. The unsettled state of the frontiers, and the refusal of the British to surrender the posts, had a serious influence upon the first attempt at settlement. The surveyors were turned back at Oswego from proceeding further, and the Indians at St. Regis drove off the first intruders. In a speech to the Indians in 1794, Lord Dorchester said that there was prospect of war impending, and that the warrior's sword must mark the boundaries of the country. In

* Handbill's, 1775 to 1802, pp. 41, 43. Library of Albany Institute.

the War of 1812-15 it was proposed to render the highlands* south of the St. Lawrence the national boundary, and some such hope may have led to these embarrassing interruptions in the surveys.

Alexander Macomb, Daniel McCormick, and William Constable were equally interested in the original contract, but Macomb soon became involved in an immense speculation styled the "Million Bank," in which Isaac Whippo, Wm. Duer, Walter Livingston and others were concerned, and a great number of men were pecuniary losers; Macomb was lodged in jail April 17, 1792, and even there owed his life to the strength of his prison walls. This failure interrupted a negotiation with the Holland Land Company, who afterwards bought in Western New York.

This purchase of Macomb was not his first venture in land transactions in Northern New York. Alexander Macomb was one of the largest, if not the largest, owner in the Totten and Crossfield Purchase, having been connected with that enterprise in its beginning.

Macomb conveyed to William Constable, of New York, June 6, 1792, Great Tracts IV, V, and VI. Constable conveyed, December 17, 1792, to Colonel Samuel Ward, 1,281,880 acres, embracing all of tracts V and VI, except 25,000 acres which had been contracted for by Patrick Colquhoun and conveyed subsequently to William Inman, the price paid for the lands thus conveyed being £100,000. Ward reconveyed these lands soon after to Constable, except 685,000 acres which he had sold. In this conveyance it appears William Constable, Colonel William Stephen Smith, and Samuel Ward were equally interested. A balance sheet of the accounts of these three proprietors, brought down to July 1, 1796, shows an amount of £69,092, cost and expenses, and £50,475 profits, leaving to each one a share of about \$75,000. This firm appears to have had dissensions, and in a letter to Macomb, dated October 29, 1794, Constable complained that Smith had never disbursed a sixpence, and was profiting by the labors of others, while Ward was responsible for the bills. Smith died at Lebanon, Madison County, New

* The Adirondack Mountains.

York, in 1816. He was a member of the 13th and 14th Congresses.

It is claimed that the Macomb Patent has never appeared in print; it certainly would be difficult to find it if it ever has. As it may be of interest to many on account of its historical importance, its direct connection with the original title to much of the Forest Preserve, and as showing the form of the early State land patents, it is given here in full, probably for the first time:

The Macomb Patent.

The People of the State of New York, by the Grace of God, Free and Independent; To all whom these presents shall come, Greeting :

Whereas, It appears by the proceedings of our Commissioners of the Land Office, bearing date on the twenty-second day of June, One thousand seven hundred and ninety-one, that Alexander Macomb did make a certain proposal for the purchase of the waste and unappropriated lands comprised within the bounds hereinafter mentioned, and all the Islands belonging to the State in front* of said Lands, to wit: "Beginning at the Northwest corner of the Township called Hague on the River St. Lawrence, and thence Extending Southerly along the Westerly bounds of the said Township and the Township called Cambray to the most Southerly corner of the latter; thence extending Easterly, Northerly and Southerly along the lines of the said Township of Cambray and of the Townships of DeKalb, Canton and Potsdam and Stockholm to the Eastermost corner of the Latter; thence Northwesterly along the line of the said Township of Stockholm and the Township of Louisville to the river St. Lawrence; thence along the shore thereof to the line run for the North line of this State in the 45th degree of North Latitude; thence East along the same to the west bounds of the tract formerly set apart as Bounty lands for the Troops of this State serving in the army of the United States; thence Southerly along the same to the north Bound of the Tract known by the name of Totten and Crossfield's purchase; thence Westerly along the north Bounds of the Tract last mentioned to the Westernmost corner thereof; thence Southeasterly along the Southwesterly bounds thereof to the most Westerly corner of Township Number five in the said Tract; thence Westerly in a direct line to the Northwesternmost corner of the Tract of land granted to Oothoudt; thence Westerly on a direct line to the mouth of Salmon River where it empties itself into Lake Ontario; thence Northeasterly along the shore of the said Lake and the River St. Lawrence to the place of Beginning, Including

* Referring here to the islands in the St. Lawrence river.

all the Islands belonging to this State, fronting the said Tract in Lake Ontario, and the River St. Lawrence." For the price and upon the terms and conditions in the said proposal specified and contained. And, Whereas, the said Alexander Macomb, by a certain Instrument of writing, under his hand, filed in our Secretary's Office, did afterwards consent and agree, that the Islands called Carleton's or Bucks Island in the River St. Lawrence and a Tract equal to six miles square in the vicinity of the Village of St. Regis, be excepted out of the above contract and to remain the property of the State, provided, always, that if the said Tract should not be thereafter applied for the use of the Indians of the said village, that then the same should be considered as included in the beforementioned contract, and that he the said Alexander Macomb should be intitled to a grant for the same on his performance of the stipulations contained in his said proposals. And, Whereas, our Commissioners of the Land Office on the said Twenty-second day of June, One thousand seven hundred and ninety-one, did agree to, and accept the said proposals* of the said Alexander Macomb, and thereupon did direct our Surveyor General to survey the said Tract of Land or as much thereof as was vacant and unappropriated for and at the expense of the said Alexander Macomb, and that he should make return thereof to our said Commissioners of the Land Office with all convenient speed. And, Whereas, on the tenth day of January, One thousand seven hundred and ninety-two, Our Surveyor General did make a return to our Commissioners of the Land Office in the words and figures following, to wit, "Pursuant to a Resolve of the Commissioners of the Land Office, dated the 22d June, 1791, I have laid out for Alexander Macomb all those certain tracts of land situate in the Northernmost part of the State of New York, to wit, the First of the said tracts begins in the north Bounds of the said State, in the Latitude of forty-five degrees at the Northwest Corner of a tract of land formerly laid out for the Troops of this State serving in the army of the United States and Runs thence along the said tract south about sixty miles and Twenty Chains to a tract of land commonly called Totten and Crossfields purchase; then along the same west sixteen Miles and Twenty-three chains, then north about sixty-two miles and forty chains to the said north bounds of the State of New York, and then Easterly along the same to the place of beginning estimated to contain six hundred and forty thousand acres. The Second of the said tracts Begins in the north bounds of Totten and Crossfields purchase at the southwest Corner of the last described tract and runs thence west along the said Totten and Crossfields purchase seventeen miles and forty Chains, then North about forty-two miles to the Township of Stockholm, then northeasterly along the same to the most easterly corner thereof, then northwesterly along the said Township and the Township of Louisville to other patented Lands, then along the said patented lands Easterly and Northerly

* In accepting his proposal "all lakes whose area exceeds one thousand acres" must have been deducted by the State.

to the River St. Lawrence, then down along the same to the Latitude line of forty-five Degrees north, being the north bounds of the said State; then Easterly along the same to the first described tract and then along the same south about sixty-two miles to the place of beginning: Reserving out of the same a Tract of Land equal to six miles square Including the Village of St. Regis, as the same shall hereafter be laid out by the said State, Estimated to Contain Exclusive of the said reserved tract, Six hundred and sixteen thousand nine hundred and sixteen acres. The Third of the said tracts begins at the southwest corner of the second described Tract in the North bounds of Totten and Crossfields purchase and runs thence west along the same about eight miles and sixty chains to the most westerly corner thereof, then north fifty-four degrees west about fifty-three miles to the river St. Lawrence, then down along the same to the Township of Hague, then along the same and along the Townships of Cambray, De Kalb, Canton, Potsdam and Stockholm southerly, easterly and northerly to the said second tract, and then along the same south about forty-two miles to the place of beginning. Estimated to contain six hundred and forty thousand acres the said three tracts of land together being comprehended in the following Bounds, to wit, Beginning in the north Bound of the said State in the Latitude of Forty-five degrees north at the northwest corner of a tract of land formerly laid out for the Troops of this State serving in the army of the United States, and running thence along the same south about sixty miles and Twenty Chains to a tract of land commonly called Totten and Crossfields purchase then along the same west about Forty-two miles and an half to the most westerly corner thereof, then north fifty-four degrees west about fifty-three miles to the River St. Lawrence, then down along the same to the Township of Hague, then along the same and along the Townships of Cambray, De Kalb, Canton, Potsdam, Stockholm, Louisville and other patented Lands, southerly, easterly and northerly to the said River St. Lawrence, then down along the same to the said Latitude line and then along the same easterly to the place of Beginning. (Reserving out of the same a tract of land equal to six miles square, including the Village of St. Regis as the same shall hereafter be laid out by the said State.) Estimated to contain Exclusive of the said reserved tract, One million Eight Hundred and Ninety-six Thousand Nine Hundred and sixty acres. THE FOURTH of the said first mentioned tract Begins at the most Westerly corner of the tract of land commonly called Totten and Crossfields purchase and runs thence north fifty-four degrees west about fifty-three miles to the river St. Lawrence, then up along the same to a tract of land granted Peter Penet then along the same East ten miles, South ten miles, West ten miles and North ten miles to the said River. Then up along the same until a course south eighty-seven degrees east will strike the place of beginning and then south eighty-seven degrees east about seventy-two miles to the place of beginning. Estimated to contain, six hundred and forty thousand acres, excepting out of the same eight hundred acres of land as the same is located in the Surveyor-General's Office, and

with such bounds as shall be described in the Letters patent thereof hereafter to be granted. The FIFTH of the said tracts begins at the most westerly corner of the tract of land commonly called Totten and Crossfields purchase, and runs thence along the same south thirty degrees east twelve miles and forty chains, then west about seventy-six miles to the Waters of Lake Ontario, then down along the same until a course south eighty-seven degrees east will strike the place of beginning, and then south eighty-seven degrees east about seventy-two miles to the place of beginning, Estimated to contain Six hundred and forty thousand acres. And the SIXTH of the said Tract begins at the most westerly corner of Township Number five of Totten and Crossfields purchase and runs thence westerly with a direct line to the Northwest Corner of a Tract of Sixteen Thousand and Fifty-two acres of land granted to Henry Oothoudt about forty-four miles and a quarter, then with a direct line about forty-two miles to the mouth of Salmon Creek where it empties into Lake Ontario to the Northward of Oswego, then Northerly along the said lake to the aforesaid fifth tract of land, then along the same east about seventy-six miles to the said Totten and Crossfields purchase, and then along the same south thirty degrees east about Eight miles and an half to the place of beginning, Estimated to contain Six hundred and forty thousand acres. The said three last described tracts of land together being comprehended within the following bounds, to wit, Beginning at the most westerly corner of the Tract of Land Commonly called Totten and Crossfields purchase and running thence along the same south thirty degrees east about twenty-one miles to the most westerly corner of Township Number five of said purchase, then westerly with a direct line to the northwest corner of a tract of sixteen thousand and fifty-two acres of land granted to Henry Oothoudt, then with a direct line to the mouth of Salmon Creek, where it empties into Lake Ontario to the Northward of Oswego, then northerly along the said Lake and the River St. Lawrence to a Tract of land Granted to Peter Penet, then along the same south ten miles, east ten miles, north ten miles, and west ten miles, to the said River St. Lawrence, then down along the said river till a course south fifty-four Degrees east will strike the place of Beginning and then south fifty-four degrees east about fifty-three miles to the said place of beginning, Estimated to contain One Million Nine Hundred and Twenty thousand acres, reserving out of the same eight hundred acres of land as the same is located in the Surveyor Generals Office and with such bounds as shall be described in the letters patent therefor hereafter to be granted." And WHEREAS, on the said tenth day of January, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety-two, our letters patent Issued Granting to the said Alexander Macomb, the southern half of said Tract of Land contained in the proposals of the said Alexander Macomb being the fourth, fifth and sixth tracts of land, above described in the said return of our said Surveyor-General Estimated to contain One Million nine hundred and Twenty thousand acres of Land. And WHEREAS, on the third day of

March, One Thousand seven hundred and ninety-five, in and by the Minutes of the proceedings of our Commissioners of the Land Office, it is recited and Resolved as follows, to wit: "WHEREAS, the surveyor General hath heretofore made a return of survey of a large Tract of Land in the northwestern part of this State Contracted on the 22d of June, 1791, to be sold to Alexander Macomb, a patent for the most southern half or three-sixths parts of which did Issue on the 10th of January, 1792. AND, WHEREAS, Daniel McCormick, an Original proprietor with said Macomb in the said purchase as appears from the affidavits of the said Macomb and McCormick now annexed to the said Return, hath paid into the Treasury of this State the full purchase Money for one other Sixth of the said Large tract Containing Six hundred and forty thousand Acres distinguished in said Return by the third Tract as appears by the Treasurer's receipt filed in the Secretary's Office with the said return. AND, WHEREAS, the said Alexander Macomb hath by an Instrument in Writing also annexed to said return, assigned and Transferred all his right and title in the said third Tract to the said McCormick and requested the Commissioners that a patent might Issue to the said McCormick, for the same accordingly. RESOLVED, therefore, that the Secretary do prepare Letters Patent to the said Daniel McCormick for the said sixth part so distinguished as aforesaid by the name of the third tract and lay them before this board for their approbation. AND, WHEREAS, in pursuance of the said order our Letters patent did Issue to the said Daniel McCormick for one-sixth part of the said large tract of land, distinguished in the above recited return by the name of the third tract and Estimated to contain Six hundred and forty thousand acres of land. AND, WHEREAS, in and by the Instrument of writing referred to in the said order of our Commissioners of the Land Office of the third day of March, One thousand seven hundred and ninety-five and annexed to the aforesaid return of survey made by our Surveyor General, the said Alexander Macomb did assign and set over, Convey and confirm unto the said Daniel McCormick all the right, title and Interest of him the said Alexander Macomb, of in and to the three tracts above described in the before mentioned return of survey, to wit, Tract Number one, Tract number two, and Tract Number three, Said to Contain in the whole One Million, Eight hundred and ninety-six thousand nine hundred and sixty acres of land. AND, WHEREAS, at the respective periods of Granting, the Letters patent aforesaid the number of acres contained in the said several Tracts of land so granted as aforesaid were not accurately ascertained. AND, WHEREAS, by the Certificate of our Surveyor General to our Commissioners of the Land Office bearing date the Eighteenth day of December, One thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven, and filed in our Secretary's Office, it appears that the real quantity of Land contained in the said Letters patent was less than the estimated number of acres designated in the same, and that the Tracts number five and Six Contain One Million four hundred and nine thousand seven hundred and thirty-eight acres of land. The tract Number four Contains four hundred and fifty thousand nine hundred and fifty acres of land, the

Tract Number three Contains four hundred and fifty-eight thousand two hundred and twenty-eight acres of Land. The tract Number two Contains five hundred and fifty-three thousand and Twenty acres of Land, and the Tract Number one Contains Eight hundred and Twenty-one thousand Eight hundred and nineteen Acres of Land. AND, WHEREAS, a final arrangement and settlement concerning the Contents of the several Tracts heretofore granted as aforesaid, and of the Tracts hereinafter Granted, and of the sums of money paid on account of the same hath been made, according to which Settlement the deficiencies in the Several Tracts, Number three, Number four, Number five and Number six have been compensated and allowed to the said Daniel McCormick by a sufficient number of acres included in the Tracts of Lands Number one and number two hereinafter granted. AND, WHEREAS, in and by a Treaty held at the City of New York with the Nations or Tribes of Indians Denominating themselves the seven nations of Canada, Abraham Ogden Commissioner appointed under the Authority of the United States, to hold the Treaty, Certain Indian Chiefs and Deputies authorized to represent those seven Nations or Tribes of Indians, Egbert Benson, Richard Varick and James Watson, agents for the State of New York, William Constable and the said Daniel McCormick, purchasers under Alexander Macomb, it is among other things agreed that the tract Equal to six Miles square reserved in the sale made by our Commissioners of the Land Office to Alexander Macomb to be applied to the use of the Indians of the village of St. Regis, shall still remain so reserved, and in and by the said Treaty it is further stated and agreed as follows, "The said Deputies having suggested that the Indians of the Village of St. Regis have built a mill on Salmon River and another on Grass River and that the meadows on Grass river are necessary to them for hay, in order, therefore, to secure to the Indians of the said village the use of said Mills and Meadows, in case they should hereafter appear not to be included within the above tract so to remain reserved, it is therefore also agreed and concluded between the Deputies the said agents and the said William Constable and Daniel McCormick for themselves and their associates, purchasers under the said Alexander Macomb of the adjacent Lands, that there shall be reserved to be applied to the use of the Indians of the said Village of St. Regis in like manner as the said Tract is to remain reserved, a tract of one Mile square at each of the said Mills and the Meadows on both sides of the said Grass River from the said mill thereon to its Confluence with the River St. Lawrence," as in and by the said Treaty of Record in our Secretary's Office will appear. AND, WHEREAS, Daniel McCormick by his Memorial presented to our Commissioners of the Land Office, and to which Alexander Macomb and William Constable have signified their assent in writing, hath prayed our Letters Patent for the said Tracts Number one and Two. NOW THEREFORE, know ye that in Consideration of the premises WE have given, granted and confirmed, and by these presents do give, grant and confirm unto the said Daniel McCormick the first and second Tracts described in the foregoing recited return of our Surveyor General, the first of which

said Tract is bounded and described as follows, to wit, BEGINNING in the north bounds of the said State in the Latitude of Forty-five Degrees at the Northwest Corner of a Tract of Land formerly Laid out for the Troops of this State serving in the Army of the United States and Runs thence along the said Tract South about sixty miles and Twenty Chains to a Tract of Land Commonly called Totten and Crossfields purchase, then along the same West sixteen Miles and Twenty-three Chains, then North about sixty-two Miles and forty Chains to the said north bounds of the State of New York, and then Easterly along the same to the place of beginning, Certified by our Surveyor General to contain, Eight Hundred and Twenty-one thousand Eight hundred and nineteen acres of land. The second of which said Tracts is bounded as follows, to wit, BEGINNING, in the north bounds of Totten and Crossfields purchase at the southwest Corner of the last Described Tract and runs thence west along the said Totten and Crossfields purchase Seventeen Miles and forty chains, then north about forty-two miles to the Township of Stockholm then northeasterly along the same to the most easterly corner thereof, then Northwesterly along the said Township and the Township of Louisville to other Patented Lands, then along the said Patented Lands easterly and northerly to the River St. Lawrence, then down along the same to the Latitude line of forty-five Degrees north being the north bounds of the said State, then Easterly along the same to the first Described Tract and then along the same south about sixty-two miles to the place of beginning certified by our Surveyor General to Contain five Hundred and fifty-three thousand and Twenty acres of land the said two tracts in the whole containing One Million three hundred and seventy-four thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine acres be the same more or less, TOGETHER with all and singular, the Rights, Hereditaments and Appurtenances to the same belonging or in any wise appertaining, excepting and reserving to ourselves all Gold and Silver Mines, and five acres of every Hundred acres of the said Tract of Land for Highways and also excepting and reserving a Tract equal to six Miles Square, in the Vicinity of the Village of St. Regis as the same shall be surveyed and returned by our Surveyor General, and Also excepting and reserving a Tract of one mile square at each of the Mills, one on Salmon River and the other on Grass River, and Meadows on both sides of the said grass River from the said Mill thereon to its confluence with the river St. Lawrence, as fully as the same are described in the above recited treaty, and as the same shall be surveyed and returned by our Surveyor General. TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the above described and Granted premises (Except as is before excepted and reserved) unto the said Daniel McCormick his heirs and assigns, as a good and indefeasible Estate of Inheritance forever on Condition Nevertheless, that within the Term of seven years, to be computed from the date hereof, there shall be one family actually settled on the said Tract of land hereby Granted for every six hundred and forty acres thereof, Otherwise these our Letters patent and the Estate hereby Granted shall cease, determine and become void. IN TESTIMONY whereof we have caused these our Letters to be made patent and the Great Seal of

our said State to be hereunto affixed. Witness our Trusty and well beloved JOHN JAY, Esquire, Governor of our said State, General and Commander in Chief of all the Militia and admiral of the Navy of the same, at our City of Albany the seventeenth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety Eight and in the Twenty-third year of our Independence. APPROVED of by the Commissioners of the Land Office and passed the Secretary's Office the 17th day of August, 1798. Daniel Hale, Secry. I have Examined the within Letters Patent and do Certify that the same are conformable to the order and proceedings of the Commissioners of the Land Office, and in Due form of Law. May 29th, 1798, Joseph Ogden Hoffman, Attorney General. John Jay.

THE BLACK RIVER TRACT.*

Samuel Ward and wife, on the 12th of December, 1792, conveyed to Thomas Boylston, of Boston, all of Macomb's Purchase south and west of the Black River, excepting Inman's Triangle, for £20,000. Boylston was a partner in the firm of Lane, Son & Fraser, of London, who failed soon after for a large amount, and the title was subsequently conveyed by their assignees. Boylston was related to the wife of Colonel William S. Smith, who was associated with Samuel Ward in some of his land purchases. The lands south of the Black River thus conveyed were sold upon an estimated area of 400,000 acres; but the subsequent survey developed the fact that they contained 817,155 acres. To rectify this enormous error, it is said to have cost Constable £60,000 sterling. In 1794 Boylston deeded the land, since known as the Black River Tract, to the assignees of Lane, Son & Fraser, of London, who in turn conveyed it, June 2, 1794, to John Johnson Phyn, of that city, in whom the title became vested in fee simple, with all the rights and appurtenances thereto. Phyn was a son of James Phyn, who married a sister of Constable, and he appointed Constable his attorney to sell any or all of these lands. Constable, on July 15, 1795, sold to Nicholas Low, William Henderson, Richard Harrison, and Josiah Ogden Hoffman, all of New York city, the

* For much of the historical matter in the following pages relating to the tracts and patents we are indebted to the writings of the late Dr. Franklin B. Hough, and Nathaniel Bartlett Sylvester.

land between the Black River and a line running in a course south 81 deg. East, 3,100 ch., from the mouth of Sandy Creek to the river.

To give a better idea of these old time speculations in the lands of Northern New York, attention is called to a letter written in 1798 by one of these parties, to his agent in London. After stating that the capital invested might lie unproductive for a few years, but would certainly return several hundred per cent in the end, he says, that in 1786 he received 3,000 acres in Bayard's Patent, on the Mohawk, valued at four shillings the acre, which, in 1796, he brought into market and sold at twenty shillings. He then mentions the purchase of this Boylston Tract in 1794, estimated at 400,000 acres, at two shillings, and adds:

"On my arrival here in 1795, I had it surveyed and explored, when, it appearing that from the course of the river by which it was bounded, it comprehended double the quantity, or upwards of 800,000 acres, the purchase being so much larger than I had contemplated, I was under the necessity of proceeding immediately to sell a part of the tract. This I found no difficulty in doing, as the land was found to be uncommonly good. Messrs. Nicholas Low and his associates purchased 300,000 acres at 8s., or 4s. 6d., sterling, one-fourth of the money payable down, the balance in five annual installments, with interest, the whole of the land remaining security on mortgage. In 1796, I had the whole of the remaining 500,000 acres laid out in townships of 25,000 to 30,000 acres, and sold in that and the succeeding year about 100,000 acres from 6s. 9d. to 9s. sterling, receiving one-fourth the money down and taking mortgage to secure the balance in five annual payments with interest at seven per cent. as is customary. I interested a Mr. Shaler in one-half of two townships, on condition of his settling on the tract, and selling the lands out in small farms of about 200 acres, he to be charged 9s. per acre for his part, and to have half the profit on the sales. He accordingly went out and had the lands surveyed, made a road from Fort Stanwix into the midst of it and built a saw-mill and a grist-mill.

His accounts last rendered show the disposal of about 10,000 acres for nearly \$40,000, of which he has paid me all the money received, being \$10,000, and has made an account of expenses for roads, buildings, etc., of about \$4,000. He sells alternate lots at \$4 the acre, the settlement of which will immediately give an additional value to the intermediate ones, which we mean to reserve."

In view of the extensive sales and purchases of Adirondack lands which are being carried on so actively at the present time, these old records of sales and prices are especially interesting; but it should be borne in mind that the Black River Tract embraced the fertile slopes and bottom lands along the valley of the Black River, and were of far greater value than the tracts which were located on the cold and sterile altitudes of the Adirondack Plateau.

The Black River Tract was divided by ballot, between the owners, on the 11th of August, 1796. Low drew Townships 2, 7, and 11, or "Watertown," "Adams," and "Lowville," and 1,578 acres of the surplus tract; Henderson took 3, 6, and 9, or "Rutland," "Henderson," and "Pinckney," and 649 acres of the surplus; and Harrison and Hoffman together, 1, 4, 5, 8, and 10, or "Houndsfield," "Champion," "Denmark," "Rodman," and "Harrisburgh," and 1,283 acres of the surplus. As their guide, in making this division, Mr. Benjamin Wright, who surveyed the outlines of the towns in April, and May, 1796, reported with a minute description of soil, timber, and natural advantages, the following general summary of his views with regard to their relative value:*

"Numbers 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, have very little to choose in point of quality. 6 is best situated, but 7 is a most excellent town. 5 would be called best by New England people on account of the luxuriantcy of its soil on Deer Creek. 2 is an exceeding good town, but is not so good as 7. 8 and 9 are very good towns. 10, the north part, is exceeding good. 11, the west part, is excellent. 7 has the preference of the whole for quality and situation together, and 6 for situation only. 1 is well situated, but I fear has not good mill sites on it. 8 has excellent mill sites, and 9 also, but are some broken. 10 is bad on the south line, and 9 also, being cold and hemlocky."

*History of Lewis County, by Franklin B. Hough. Albany: Munsell & Rowland. 1890.

The prejudice against hemlock timber is historically connected with the titles, and had an influence upon opinion as to the value of lands, which experience has not sustained. The indifferent quality of these lands when first brought under cultivation, is found due to the large amount of tannin in the leaves, and as this disappears the capacity of the soil increases until it may equal the best, other circumstances being equal.

THE BRANTINGHAM TRACT.

Samuel Ward and wife, conveyed August 18, 1793, in the name of William Inman, a tract of land supposed to be 50,000 acres, east of the Black River, in trust for P. Colquhoun, in pursuance of a contract made with Constable that year. The price was five thousand pounds sterling. It was surveyed by Cockburn in 1794, when the tract was found to measure 74,400 acres. The tract is situated in the southeastern part of Lewis County, in the Towns of Greig and Lyonsdale. In August, 1793, Brockholst Livingston became a purchaser in trust for himself and certain alien owners, of whom he alone was allowed to hold land. There were two associations formed for holding these, viz., "Fellowship Location," of 50,000 acres, and "The Surplus Lands," the latter of which belonged exclusively to Livingston and Colquhoun. In 1794, the entire tract was purchased by Thomas Hopper Brantingham, of Philadelphia, for \$23,073, and it was from this gentleman that the tract received its name. Brantingham's interest in this tract, however, was not of long duration. Through mortgages which he gave upon the property, it passed out of his hands, and within a few years the title was vested again in Livingston and Colquhoun.

In 1834 over 40,000 acres of this tract were sold for taxes, the greater part of which was bid off by Franz Seger, and deeded by him to John Greig. John Greig and Caleb Lyon were agents of Kerr and Colquhoun, who at that time owned one-half of the original Brantingham Tract.

THE BOYLSTON TRACT.

On the 10th of April, 1795, Phyn reconveyed to Constable 105,000 acres for £10,000, which tract was subdivided into four towns, adjacent to Inman's Triangle, and almost reaching the southeast corner of the eleven towns of the Black River Tract.

On the 1st of April, 1796, Phyn reconveyed to Constable 406,000 acres for \$400,* this being the residue of the "Boylston Tract. This land was subdivided into thirteen towns, which in common language have been denominated the "Boylston Tract;" although, strictly speaking, that tract included everything between Black River, Lake Ontario, and Inman's Triangle, amounting to 817,155 acres. The separate numbering of the townships surveyed out from the lands released in 1795 and 1796, has resulted in some confusion, as from 1 to 4 the numbers are duplicated. The outlines of these towns were mostly surveyed by William Cockburn & Son, of Poughkeepsie.

Upon the death of William Constable, in 1803, John McVickar, James Constable, and Hezekiah B. Pierrepont became the executors of his estate; and in 1819, the latter, by purchase, acquired the interests of the several heirs. By virtue of marriage with the daughter of Mr. Constable, he had previously become an owner of a share of the estate. The remaining heirs were paid about \$25,000 each, principally in lands. By this means Edward McVickar became owner of lands in the west subdivision of Number 5, and in Number 9. The remaining interests in Townships 3 and 4 of Constable's four towns, became the property of William Constable, who settled at Constableville, and other members of the family became interested either in lands or contracts.

In the beginning, William Constable adopted the plan of deeding lands and taking mortgages, but this being found expensive and troublesome, it was superseded by that of contracts, guaranteeing an ample deed upon full payment. This form of contract, originally prepared by Alexander Hamilton,

* Dr. Franklin B. Hough.

was not changed. It secured legal interest annually to the proprietor, and required the purchasers to pay all surveys, taxes, and assessments, binding them not to abandon the premises, or to sell or assign the contract, or cut, or suffer to be cut for sale, any timber without the consent of the proprietor, or commit any waste, actual or permissive, upon the premises. In case of default, it was optional with the party of the first part to abide by the contract, or consider it void; and, if the latter, to re-enter and dispose of the premises as in case of a tenant holding over without permission. The inflexible rule of requiring one-quarter payment upon purchase was never relaxed by Constable, but was changed by his executors.

INMAN'S TRIANGLE.

On the 5th of June, 1792, Patrick Colquhoun, High Sheriff of London, purchased from his friend, William Constable, this tract of 25,000 acres, at 1s. sterling per acre, and through his friendship for William Inman, interested him in a share of 4,000 at the original cost; and as the purchaser was an alien, and, therefore, incapable of holding lands in America, he caused the whole to be conveyed in the name of Inman, in trust, and made him agent for the sale and settlement of the tract. William Inman, who was a native of Somersetshire, England, was allowed to hold lands in this State by an act of March 27, 1794. He came to America in 1792, and soon after was intrusted with the interests of certain Europeans, prominent among whom was Patrick Colquhoun. Inman took up his residence in Whites-town, near Utica, and was for many years a resident of Oneida County, having a brewery in Utica.

In 1793, Inman returned to England, and through his representations, Colquhoun was induced to undertake the purchase of what is now known as the Brantingham Tract, the agency of which was intrusted to him.

BROWN'S TRACT.

This term which in some parts of our State is used in reference to the entire Adirondack Wilderness, is applicable only to a tract of 210,000 acres, or eight townships, which extend across Herkimer County and include a small portion of Lewis and Hamilton. Like some of the adjoining tracts, it was originally a part of the great Macomb Purchase.

Samuel Ward and wife conveyed, November 25, 1794, to James Greenleaf, a tract of 210,000 acres from the eastern extremity of Great Tracts V and VI, and the latter mortgaged the territory in 1795 to Philip Livingston. The mortgage was foreclosed in December, 1798, and the land was bid in for \$33,000 by Colonel John Brown, a wealthy merchant of Providence, R. I. The tract was surveyed into eight townships by Nathaniel Smith, in 1796, to which townships Brown gave, in addition to their numerical designations, the names, Industry, Enterprise, Perseverance, Unanimity, Frugality, Sobriety, Economy, and Regularity. As to how far Colonel Brown combined in his own person all these virtues, is something which history fails to state.

On the small map published by the State Forest Commission in 1886, these townships like those in other tracts, which had names as well as numbers, are shown with their respective designations; but on the large map recently published by the Commission the numerical designations of the townships alone are used, in order to save the confusion which is very apt to arise through mistaking the name of a township for that of a town.

Of these eight townships in Brown's Tract, four of them only, 2, 3, 6 and 7, have been allotted. Township 2 was surveyed into lots by Cliff French as far back as 1799. At one time Aaron Burr had an interest in this tract prior to the date of Brown's Purchase.

John Brown was one of the richest merchants, and belonged to one of the oldest and most noted families in Providence, Rhode Island. He was born in the year 1736, and was a

descendant of Rev. Chadd Brown, who was driven into Providence with Roger Williams in 1636. In 1772 John Brown led the party that destroyed the British schooner, Gaspee, in Narragansett Bay. For twenty years he was treasurer of Brown University, which was named in honor of his family, and he laid the corner stone of its edifice. In 1779 he was elected to the Continental Congress, in which he served two years. He is described as "a man of magnificent projects, and extraordinary enterprise." He was the first merchant in Providence who traded with China and the East. With all his talent, courage and superiority, however, he was unable to cope successfully with the obstacles to the last great enterprise which he planned. The story of Brown's operations in the Wilderness is but a sad one at the best.

In 1799 he visited his tract, remaining there during the great part of the summer. He caused it to be surveyed and divided into townships. At a great expense he built three roads into the tract, one leading from Remsen, another from Boonville, and another from High Falls. He made a clearing on Township No. 7, built a grist-mill, saw-mill, and several log-houses. In that year also, his agent, James Sheldon, moved with his family onto the tract. For two or three years after John Brown made toilsome journeys to his forest possessions, but he died in 1803, leaving his lands a wilderness.*

But the story of Brown's Tract did not end with the death of John Brown. There are other chapters still, stories of enterprise, disappointment, and death. John Brown had a daughter, the Widow Francis, who was the mother of John Brown Francis, afterward Governor of Rhode Island. She married for her second husband Charles Frederick Herreshoff, a Prussian by birth. About the year 1812, Herreshoff went onto this tract. He cleared over 2,000 acres, built thirty or forty new buildings, drove in cattle, and a flock of merino sheep. He built a forge, and opened and worked a mine of iron ore. He spent his own fortune there and all the money that he could borrow from his

* Historical sketches of Northern New York, by Nathaniel Bartlett Sylvester. Troy, N. Y.; William H. Young. 1877.



friends. When he entered the forest he made this declaration: "I will settle the tract or settle myself." He settled himself. In December, 1819, his money was all gone, and his friends had deserted him. One day, a draft on his eastern friends having been returned dishonored, in a fit of utter despondency he went out of his dwelling to a lonely spot on the tract that had been so long the scene of his fruitless endeavors, and ended his life by a pistol shot.

Herreshoff was a man over six feet in height, well formed, and of commanding presence. He was described as having great energy and perseverance, of high culture and the most engaging manner, but extremely proud and aristocratic. He was somewhat visionary in his schemes, and not so well adapted to the settlement of a new country as many men of less enterprise. After all his efforts he made but one ton of iron at his forge. Every pound of it cost him more than a dollar in gold. Like Gilliland, of Essex County, he had dreams of a magnificent baronial estate, rising in feudal grandeur in the wild American forest, similar to those more favored ones along the Hudson — himself its princely lord.

After the failure and death of Herreshoff, his little settlement was soon deserted by its tenantry and went swiftly to decay and ruin. For years the deserted dwellings were used as the temporary resting places of the wandering hunter or trapper, and sometimes as the homes of the wild beasts and birds of the forest.

It was not until the year 1832 that the premises were again occupied. In that year the old Herreshoff manor was leased to the famous hunter and trapper, Nathaniel Foster, who moved in with his family, and took possession of the wild forest retreat. He was a man who had long been known in forest stories as one of the most famous hunters and trappers of the great Wilderness. Like Nicholas Stoner and Jonathan Wright, Foster belonged to a race of hunters and trappers that has long since passed away. They were men of iron mold who had survived the savage Indian warfare of the Revolution with bitter remembrance of its cruel massacres and burning dwellings.





S. B. Stoddard, Photo.

IN THE CATSKILL STATE FOREST.

Taken from Life.

They frequented the forest partly to obtain a subsistence, but more from that wild love of it which is the sure outcome of a familiarity with its trials and dangers in its savage state. Like the forest ranger of the Canadian woods and waters, the hunter of the olden time by his years of bush-ranging had become spoiled for civilization, and, like him, had become in a great measure the adopted child of the forest. For him the voice of Nature had a wild, sweet charm that drew him irresistibly into her savage haunts. Parkman, the historian, in speaking of the Canadian forest ranger—the *coureur de bois*—says:

“Rude as he was the voice of Nature may not always have been meaningless for one who knew her haunts so well; deep recesses where, veiled in foliage, some wild, shy rivulet steals with timid music through breathless caves of verdure; or the stern depths of immemorial forests, dim and silent as a cavern columned with innumerable trunks, each like an Atlas upholding its world of leaves and sweating perpetual moisture down its dark and channeled rind; some strong in youth; some grisly with decrepit age, nightmares of strange distortion, gnarled and knotted with wens and goitres; roots intertwined beneath, like serpents petrified in an agony of contorted strife; green and glistening mosses carpeting the rough ground, mantling the rocks, turning pulpy stumps to mounds of verdure, and swathing fallen trunks, as bent in the impotence of rottenness they lie outstretched over knoll and hollow, like mouldering reptiles of the primeval world, while around, and on and through them, springs the young growth that fattens on their decay,—the forest devouring its own dead.”

Such were the forest scenes with which the old hunters and land “prospectors” were familiar in their daily vocation. But between the old trappers and the few Indians, who still clung to their ancestral hunting grounds, there was an endless feud, an irresistible conflict. Foster had trouble with a morose, quarrelsome Indian who went by the name of Drid. He not only attacked Foster and severely cut him with a knife, but after they were separated by some hunters who were present, Drid threatened to shoot him. Foster then went to a point on the

outlet of First Lake, Fulton Chain, and from a position where he was hidden by the bushes, shot Drid through the heart as he was paddling his canoe past the spot. Foster was arrested, tried in the Herkimer Court in 1834, and acquitted. Owing to this unfortunate affair, he did not consider it safe to remain in the vicinity of Brown's Tract, where he would be exposed to the vengeful rifles of Drid's relatives, and so he removed to Boonville, Oneida County.

After Foster had retired from the scene, another hunter went in with his family to reside there. His name was Otis Arnold. He moved in about the year 1837 with his wife and one child, and took possession of the old Herreshoff house. Here he lived and raised a large family of children, keeping a sort of forest hostelry, until his death in 1868. But Arnold's life went out in a dark tragedy that added another sad story to the history of Brown's Tract. In September, 1868, in a fit of uncontrollable anger, occasioned by a quarrel about a dog-collar, he shot and killed a guide named James Short, of Warrensburgh, Essex County, who was resting at the forge. Goaded by remorse he went to Nick's Lake, a favorite resort of his near by, where he filled his pockets with stones and tied a large one to his neck. He then stepped into his hunting boat, paddled out into the middle of the lake, and plunging into its clear, cold water met the death he sought. Sylvester, the historian, speaks of Otis Arnold as a man who had led a long and blameless life, whose thousand acts of kindness to many a wanderer in the forest should be remembered rather than the tragic deed at the close of his career. The old Arnold Clearing, as it is still called, is in plain view of the tourists on their way to the Fulton Chain, the road from the railway station to the Old Forge running through its abandoned fields for a distance of a mile or more.

Aside from the Old Forge, at the outlet of the Fulton Chain, there is only one other settlement or post-office at the present day within the entire area of Brown's Tract, and that is the one known as Number Four, or Fenton's. The post-office, like

the locality, is known as Number Four, and takes its name from the Township, which is Township 4 ("Unanimity") of the original Brown's Tract, as laid out by Colonel John Brown. This place, like the Old Forge, has been the scene of fruitless attempts at settlement. In the year 1822, Governor John Brown Francis, of Rhode Island, succeeded his grandfather, John Brown, in the ownership of Township No. 4. For the purpose of effecting a settlement of his lands, Governor Francis offered a deed of 100 acres as a gift to each of the first ten settlers on Township Number 4, near Beaver Lake. Attracted by this inducement ten men accepted his offer, and ten families moved in, began their clearings, built their log-houses, planted their first crops, and commenced in earnest the life of pioneers in the Wilderness. A saw-mill was soon built, various improvements were made, and in a few years more than a thousand acres were cleared and fenced off into farms and gardens. A school-house was erected, and more than sixty scholars gathered in. Within ten years after the first clearing was made some seventy-five settlers were trying their fortunes at Number Four. But it would seem as if Nature had designed the Adirondack Plateau for forests and not for farms; and all the patient toil expended on the enterprise at Number Four, all the hopes and fears of these early settlers, added but another chapter to the old, sad story of a Wilderness that will not be tamed by man.

The soil was none of the best, the climate was cold, the summers were short, and the winters were long; the markets were distant, and the roads to them through the forest were almost impassable during much of the year. One by one the settlers, growing weary of the undertaking, sold out their improvements or abandoned them, and with their families left the forest hamlet to seek other homes. And now the old dwellings, with two or three exceptions, have disappeared; the school-house and its children are no longer to be seen; the fences are gone, and the once cleared fields have reverted to their original forest state.

No one of the many settlers of Number Four became so identified with its history as Orrin Fenton, who was one of the last to abandon the settlement. He moved to Number Four with his family in 1826, and lived there nearly forty years. For many years Fenton's house became, from necessity, there being few other accommodations, a forest hostelry, open for the entertainment of the hunters and pleasure-seekers who so often visited the region. Many a tired and half-famished traveler remembers with gratitude how, after a day's tramp in the woods, he received the kindly attentions of Fenton's welcome fireside, and many a pleasing reminiscence will be called up of the savory meals of trout and venison in that old tavern. .

But Fenton at length, like the other settlers at Number Four, sold out his forest home, and reluctantly left it to reside there no more. W. H. Stevens, in his Historical Notes, says of Fenton:

"Who shall or can chronicle the experiences of his hard life for forty years in the Wilderness? In the memory of how many a laborer and wanderer is his cheerful, tidy home treasured, and the kindly attention of his forest resort recalled with grateful recollection. Amid such scenes of wild beauty the genius of a Wordsworth was roused in active utterance of the melody of 'a heart grown holier as it traced the beauty of the world below.' The silence and solitude of the northern forests has had its charms for him. Who will say his heart's earlier aspirations have not been as effectually satisfied in the solitudes of the uncultivated forests as if he had moved amid the busy haunts of the crowded city? This sportsman by land and stream, this forest farmer, looks back upon woodland scene and experience with sighs. How true that while hope writes the poetry of the boy, memory writes that of the man."

The person to whom Orrin Fenton sold his place at Number Four kept the property but a few years. It is now owned by Charles Fenton, a son of Orrin Fenton, who, like his father, keeps there a famous forest retreat, overlooking Beaver Lake in its wild, enchanting beauty.

CHASSANIS TRACT.

This was originally a part of Macomb's Purchase, but was sold to Pierre Chassanis very soon after the Macomb Purchase was made. In 1792 a land company was formed in Paris, and that same year its agent, Pierre Chassanis, bought this tract of William Constable who was then the owner, or a part owner, of the great Macomb Purchase.

The land thus purchased by Chassanis included a large tract, situated in the valley of the Black River, extending along both sides of the river below the High Falls, and westerly through the counties of Lewis and Jefferson to Lake Ontario, and easterly into the heart of the Great Wilderness. It comprised at first the whole of Great Lot Number V of Macomb's Purchase, and contained 610,000 acres; but subsequently all south and west of the Black River, the part which now constitutes the richest towns of Lewis and Jefferson Counties, was given up, and only that lying to the north and east of the river retained. The portion so retained contained only 210,000 acres. It was here that a settlement bearing the name of Castorland was attempted. The name, it is said, is a literal translation of the old Indian word, Couch-sach-ra-ge, which means in the Iroquois tongue, the "Beaver Land." It will be remembered also that there is an English word, castor, which in one sense is used for beaver.

The story of Castorland is but the oft-repeated tale of frustrated settlements in this Wilderness. It is the story of an attempt of the exiled nobility and clergy of the old regime in France to found a settlement in the wilds of the New World where they could find a secure retreat from the horrors of revolution in the old. This attempt was made at the close of the last century in the valley of the Black River, on the western slope of the Great Wilderness. But, like the settlement of the first Catholics on the Patuxent; the Jacobites, with Flora McDonnell, at Cape Fear; the Huguenots, with Jean Ribeaault, at Port Royal; like New Sweden on the Delaware, and Acadie in Nova Scotia, the settlement of Castorland on the

Black River is now only a matter of history. Its story is one of brilliant promises unfulfilled, of hopes deferred, of tireless but fruitless endeavor.

Of all the labor and money expended there, nothing remains to-day as an indication of it but a wide, level clearing of meadows, skirted by forests on one side, and by the river on the other. The name itself would have been lost had it not been applied to the little railway station near by.

In August, 1792, a company was formed in Paris, under the laws of France, for the purpose of effecting a settlement of Castorland. It was styled *La Compagnie de New York*.

During the negotiations between Constable and Chassanis for this tract, the French Revolution that had been so long smouldering burst forth in all its savage fury, and the streets of Paris were red with blood. Constable locked the door of the apartment in which they met, with the remark that "if they parted before the purchase was completed they might never meet again."* The palace of the Tuilleries was already surrounded by a blood-thirsty mob. The attendants of the royal family were butchered, and the king had been cast into a dungeon. In comparison with such awful scenes as these in the very heart of the highest civilization the world had ever seen, the savage wildness of the old American forests was a scene of peaceful rest. To the fugitive noblesse of France, the former possessors of title, rank, wealth, and culture, the quiet shades of Castorland afforded a secure asylum from the horrors of the reign of terror.

A scheme was at once conceived and perfected for the settlement of Castorland. A pamphlet was printed in Paris and issued by the company containing a program of colonization, entitled "Association for the purchase and settlement of 600,000 acres of land granted by the State of New York, and situated within that State, upon Lake Ontario, 35 leagues from the Port of Albany, where vessels land from Europe." The prospectus set forth in glowing colors the attractions offered to both the

* Sylvester.

emigrant and the capitalist. Six thousand certificates were issued entitling the holders to ownership in manner following:

The whole tract at that time consisted of 630,000 acres. Of this amount, 600,000 acres were divided into 12,000 lots of fifty acres each, and the price of each share fixed at one hundred and fifty dollars. Of the thirty thousand remaining acres, two thousand were set aside for a city to be formed on the great river in the interior, and two thousand more for another city on Lake Ontario, at the mouth of the river, which was to form a great commercial port of entry. Six thousand acres were to be divided among artisans, and rented to them at twelve sous per acre; the proceeds of the twenty thousand acres remaining were to be expended by the company in the construction of roads, bridges, and other improvements. The two cities were divided into fourteen thousand lots each, of which two thousand were set apart for churches, schools, and markets. The remaining twelve thousand lots were to be divided among the six thousand holders of certificates, each holding one separate lot and one in common. The affairs of the company were to be managed by five trustees, three to remain in Paris and two upon the tract. Such was the scheme matured in Paris for the settlement of Castorland. Beautiful and promising beyond measure upon paper as an ideal, but utterly impracticable and bitterly disappointing as a reality. Yet many shares were eagerly taken.

An organization was effected in 1793, and Simon Desjardines and Pierre Pharoux were appointed commissioners. The former was an accomplished scholar and gentleman who had been a chamberlain of Louis XVI. He took with him to America his library of two thousand volumes, but it is said that he did not know a word of English when he arrived. Pharoux was a young architect and engineer of Paris, of high scientific attainments and marked ability. On their voyage they were accompanied by a young French refugee, a Royalist named Mark Brunel, who afterwards attained a worldwide reputation as an engineer and shipbuilder in England. He went with the

French Commissioners on their journey through the Wilderness, sharing all their hardships during the first year, but does not seem to have been employed by them on the Chassanis Tract.

A settlement was commenced on the banks of the Black River at the place now called Lyons Falls. They surveyed their land, and laid out one of their cities named Castorville, on the Beaver River, at a place now called Beavertown, opposite the little railway station of Castorland. They laid out their other city, the lake port, which they named "City of Basle," at what is now Dexter, below Watertown. In 1795 they founded the present village of Carthage.

In 1795, two years after his arrival in America, Pierre Pharoux met his death by drowning. In September of that year, after the river had been swollen by heavy rains, he started on a journey to Kingston, on the St. Lawrence, in company with several other persons. In passing down the Black River upon a raft they were drawn over the falls at Watertown, and Pharoux, together with others of the party, was drowned. The survivors made unremitting search for his body, but it was not found until the following spring, when it was washed ashore upon an island at the mouth of the Black River, where it was found by Benjamin Wright, the surveyor, and by him decently buried there.

Two years later, in 1797, Desjardines gave up the agency in despair, and was succeeded by Rodolphe Tillier, "Member of the Sovereign Council of Berne," who in turn was succeeded by Gouverneur Morris in 1800. The lands finally became the property of James D. Le Ray de Chaumont, his associates and grantees.

Count Chaumont owned 348,000 acres in Franklin, St. Lawrence, Jefferson, and Lewis Counties. He was a French Royalist, an intimate friend of Benjamin Franklin, and when the war of the American Revolution broke out he espoused the cause of the colonists with such ardor that he devoted the most of his large fortune to their interests. Soon after the war he came to America, and while here he was induced by his friend,

Gouverneur Morris, to purchase large tracts of land in Northern New York. He also bought a small tract in Otsego County, to which he sent Judge Cooper, the father of James Fennimore Cooper, the novelist, to be his agent. Chaumont was a brother-in-law of Chassanis, and one of the original shareholders in the French company.

About the year 1808 he came with his family to reside at a chateau at Le Rayville, near the Black River, some ten miles easterly of Watertown. This chateau, which is still standing, was for many years the seat of a refined and elegant hospitality. Kings, princes, courtiers and noblemen were his frequent guests, and the sunshine from the most polished court in Europe was reflected among the shadowy pines of the old original forests. While traveling in France, in 1815, Chaumont heard that Joseph Bonaparte, king of Naples and Spain, had arrived in his flight at the city of Blois, and having known the king intimately in his better days, he hastened to pay his respects to the royal fugitive. He was invited by Bonaparte to dine with him, and while at the table he said suddenly to Chaumont:

"I remember well you spoke to me once of your great possessions in the United States. If you have them still, I should like very much to have some in exchange for a part of that silver I have there in those wagons, and which may be pillaged at any moment. Take four or five hundred thousand francs and give me the equivalent in land."*

As a result Joseph Bonaparte purchased 118,000 acres situated in Lewis County, and in or near the present Town of Diana. In completing this purchase Joseph Bonaparte assumed the title of Count de Survilliers, and is said to have made part of the payment in certain diamonds brought from Spain. Diamonds having fallen to half their former price, the fact was made a subject of complaint, and in 1820, the count agreed to accept 26,840 acres for the nominal sum of \$40,260. Those who are acquainted with the mountainous character of the entire Adirondack region, will not be surprised to learn that the count

* Sylvester.

wrote a letter in which, after praising the territory as a hunting ground, he "regrets, notwithstanding, that thus far he has been unable to find among the 26,000 acres of land, a plateau of 200 acres to build his house upon, but he intends keeping up his researches this summer."

In 1828 Joseph Bonaparte built a hunting lodge on the bank of the beautiful sheet of water which still bears his name. The same year he made a small clearing and built a summer house on the outlet of Lake Bonaparte, where the village of Alpina now stands. He also built a summer house, with bullet-proof sleeping rooms, at Natural Bridge on the Indian River, seven miles south of the lake, which is still standing. Joseph was living during this time near Bordentown, New Jersey; but for several summers in succession he visited his forest retreat.

The Town of Diana was named in compliment to the wishes of Joseph Bonaparte, whose enthusiastic love of this famous hunting ground undoubtedly suggested to him that it should be named after the chaste huntress of the silver bow.

It is said that the Emperor Napoleon intended at the time of the purchase, to accompany his brother Joseph in his flight to America and to settle upon these lands. The scheme of the Bonapartes was to found large manufacturing establishments in the valley of the Black River, and thus become England's rival in her most important interests. This subject was once discussed at a dinner given by Chaumont, at his chateau near the Black River, in honor of a son of Marshal Murat, who was present as a guest. But Napoleon concluded to remain, and the valley of the Black River lost the distinction of having an imperial resident on its lands.

In 1835, Joseph Bonaparte sold for \$80,000 his remaining interests in Lewis and Jefferson Counties to John La Farge, a wealthy and prominent merchant of New York.

WATSON'S TRIANGLE.

There are two other subdivisions of the original Macomb Purchase, known as Watson's East Triangle, and Watson's West Triangle, their names indicating the shape of the tracts. The

easterly one is situated in the north part of Herkimer County, and is connected by a narrow strip, at its southwest corner, with the west triangle which is situated in Lewis County, where it forms part of the Town of Watson.

In April, 1796, William Constable, the principal owner of the Macomb Purchase, conveyed to James Watson, by warrantee deed, 61,433 acres, comprising the two triangular tracts and the narrow strip of land by which they are connected. The first deed being lost, it was reconveyed May 13, 1798, the boundaries having been previously surveyed by William Cockburn. This tract was a part of the original Chassanis Purchase contracted for by the French Company; but their tract having a surplus, this was sold to Watson at two shillings per acre. Watson's first agreement, dated December 2, 1793, included 150,000 acres.

James Talcott Watson was the son of James Watson, a wealthy merchant who lived in New York during the Revolution and subsequent to it. Watson, Sr., was the one who purchased the land of Constable. He died in 1809 leaving his son the sole heir to these large tracts of land in the old Wilderness. Like Gilliland on the Boquet River, like Herreshoff on the Moose River, like Arthur Noble, on the headwaters of the West Canada Creek, young Watson attempted to found a great landed estate on the Independence River where he could live in something like the old baronial splendor, surrounded by numerous dependents, and dispensing in his mansion a generous hospitality. James Talcott Watson, like his father, was a wealthy New York merchant. He was an East India trader, and in the course of his business once made a voyage to China.

He was a man of high culture and engaging manner. But, like many of the other pioneers of that western wilderness, his life was destined to a tragic end. Owing to the death of a Miss Livingston, to whom he was engaged to be married, he suffered from an attack of melancholy, and in 1839, at the age of fifty, he committed suicide by cutting his throat while suffering from a fit of melancholy.

His estate was divided among forty-four cousins, and some of these shares were still farther subdivided among numerous

families. The sixty thousand acres, undivided, gave to a cousin's share over sixteen hundred acres, but some parcels amounted to but thirty-three acres.* Much of these lands have been sold for taxes.

TOTTEN AND CROSSFIELD'S PURCHASE.

(1,150,000 acres.)

Next in size to the Macomb Purchase is the Totten and Crossfield Purchase which includes an area of 1,150,000 acres, situated in the counties of Warren, Essex, Hamilton, and Herkimer. This grant was a much older one than that of Macomb, being a colonial grant ante-dating the war of the Revolution. The original application for this land reads as follows:

"To his Excellency, the Right Honorable John, Earl of Dunmore, Captain-General and Governor-in-chief in and over the Province of New York, and the territories depending thereon in America, Chancellor, and the Admiral of the same, in council:

"The humble petition of Joseph Totten and Stephen Crossfield, in behalf of themselves and their associates, humbly sheweth:

"That your petitioners have discovered that there is a certain tract of land lying and being in the county of Albany, on the west side of the most northerly branch of Hudson's river,† beginning at the northeast corner of a tract of forty-six thousand acres of land petitioned for by Thomas Palmer and his associates; thence running south, 60 degrees west, to the northwest corner of a tract of land petitioned for by John Bergen and his associates; thence running north 30 deg. west, till it shall intersect a line coming west from ten miles north of Crown Point; thence east to Hudson's river; thence down the said river to the north bounds of a tract of land, petitioned for by Edward Jessup and Ebenezer Jessup and their associates, of forty thousand acres; thence westerly and southerly round the said tract of land until it shall come to the northeast bounds of said tract of land petitioned for by the said Thomas Palmer and his associates, being the place of beginning.

"That the said tract of land hath not been purchased of the Indian proprietors thereof, but that the Indian right thereto still remains vested in them.

"That your petitioners and their associates are willing and desirous at their own expense, of vesting the Indian right and title to the lands before described in his Majesty, in hopes of being able to obtain his Majesty's letters patent for such parts of the said tract of land as shall be found fit for cultivation.

*Dr. Franklin B. Hough.

† The Hudson River was originally spelled "Hudson's River."

"Your petitioners, therefore, in behalf of themselves and their associates, most humbly pray your Excellency's lysence, enabling them to purchase in his Majesty's name of the Indian proprietors thereof, the tract of land before described, in order that your petitioners and their associates may be enabled to apply for and obtain his Majesty's letters patent for the same, or such parts thereof as upon an accurate survey may be found fit for cultivation, and your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray, etc.

"New York, April 10, 1771.

"JOSEPH TOTTEN,

"STEPHEN CROSSFIELD.

"In behalf of themselves and their associates."

This application, having been laid before Lord Dunmore and a Committee of the Council, at a meeting held June 7, 1771, received favorable consideration, and the necessary permission for a bargain with the Indians was granted. In 1772, at a meeting of the Indian chiefs, held in the presence of Governor Tryon, the desired sanction was obtained, and the purchase was consummated. The Indians received eleven hundred and thirty-five pounds (£1,135). An absolute deed of the entire Indian interest in this tract, as described in the foregoing petition, was made, the area being estimated at that time at 800,000 acres. As this tract contained, when surveyed, 1,150,000 acres, it appears that the price paid was less than three pence per acre.

In the land papers on file in the office of the Secretary of State there may be found the old Indian deed by which the Mohawk Tribe parted with their right to this great hunting ground. The deed is signed by the noted chief, Hendricks, and others; and it is interesting to note that in making his mark Hendricks drew with his pen a plainly drawn outline of a turtle, the totem of his tribe. The old document reads as follows:

Indian Grant to Totten and Crossfield.

TO ALL PEOPLE to whome these presents shall come GREETING
KNOW YE that we Hendrick, alias Tayahansara, Lourance alias Agguragies, Hans alias Canadajaure,* & Hans Krine alias Onagoodhoge, Native Indians of the Mohock Castle send GREETING, whereas, Joseph

* Canajoharie.

Totten and Stephen Crossfield and others of his majestys Subjects their Associates did lately petition the Right Honorable John Earle of Dunmore Captain General & Governor in chief in and over the province of New York and the territories depending thereon in America, Chancellor & Vice Admiral of the same in Council setting forth, among other things, in substance that by his most Gracious Majestys Royal proclamation given at the Council of St. James's the Seventh day of October in the third Year of the Reign reciting that whereas great Frauds and abuses had been committed in purchasing Lands of the Indians to the great prejudice of his Majestys Interests and to the great dissatisfaction of the said Indians, his said Majesty by and with the Advice of his privy Council did thereby strictly enjoin and require that no private person do presume to purchase of the Native Indian proprietors any Lands not ceded to or purchased by his Majesty within those parts of his Majestys Colonies where he has thought proper to allow of Settlements but that if at any time any of the said Indians should be inclined to dispose of the said Lands the said should be purchased by his Majestys Governor or Commander in Chief of the said Colonies respectively within which they shall be and also setting forth in Substance that there is a certain unpatented Tract of Land lying and being on Sagondago or the West branch of Hudsons River beginning at the N. Wt. Corner of John Bergen's Petition & runs N. 30 Wt. until a line coming west 10 miles north of Crown Point shall intersect it, thence East to the north East branch of Hudsons River, thence down the same to a Tract of Land petitioned for by Edward & Ebenezer Jessup thence S. 60 Wt. to the place of beginning containing, by estimation, 800,000, Acres which Tract had never been ceded to or purchased by his Majesty or his Royal progenetors and predecessors but doth still remain Occupied by the Native Indians of the Mohock Castle, and also setting forth our willingness to dispose of our Native Indian Rights in favor of the Said Petitioners and their Associates and our unwillingness to make a Conveyance of the Said Tract of Land in favor of any other Person whatsoever & that we the said Indians did then (as we now do) stand ready to convey the said Tract of Land in manner directed by the said royal proclamation provided that the said Petitioners & their Associates may be preferred to all other of his Majestys Subjects in a Grant of the same, and that his Excellency would be pleased at their Expense to make such purchase as aforesaid, and that they and their Associates might thereupon be favored with a Grant of the said Tract of Land under the Quit Rents and upon the Terms and Conditions prescribed by his Majestys Instructions all which Allegations and Suggestions in the said Petition we do hereby Acknowledge and Declare to be true. NOW THEREFORE KNOW YE that we the said Indians for and in behalf of ourselves and our Nation at a publick Meeting or Assembly with his Excellency William Tryon, Esquire, his Majestys Captain General & Commander in Chief of the province of New York &c. &c. &c. at Johnson Hall pursuant to his Majestys Royal Proclamation aforesaid do

now declare our intentions and inclinations to dispose of the said Tract of Land above described in the Counties of Tryon and Albany in favor of the said Petitioners and their Associates and accordingly by these presents at the said publick Meeting and Assembly held for the purpose with the Assistance of John Butler Esquire Interpreter to us well known do for and in Consideration of the Sum of Eleven Hundred and thirty-five Pounds lawful Money of New York to us in hand paid by the said Petitioners and the further sum of five Shillings like lawful Money to us in hand paid by his said Excellency in behalf of his most Sacred Majesty George the third King of Great Britain, France and Ireland, defender of the faith &c. the receipt whereof we do hereby confess and acknowledge and thereof and therefrom and of and from every part and parcel thereof we do fully freely & absolutely release Exonerate and forever discharge his said Majesty, his Heirs, Successors and Assigns & the said Petitioners & their Assigns, their Executors Administrators and Assigns for ever by these presents and also in order to enable the said Petitioners and their Associates to obtain his Majestys Grant in fee simple for all the said Tract of Land above described within the limits and bounds hereinbefore mentioned as fully and as effectually as if the same were herein more particularly & exactly described HAVE Granted, Bargained, Sold aliend, released, Conveyed infeoffed ceded, Disposed of Surrenderd & confirmed and by these presents do fully freely and absolutely grant Bargain, Sell, Alien release, Convey, infeoff, Cede dispose of Surrender and Confirm unto his said Majesty King George the third, his Heirs, Successors and Assigns forever all and singular the Tract & Tracts, parcel & parcels, Quantity and Quantities of Land be the same more or less within the General Boundaries and Limits above mentioned, Contained and Comprehended AND ALSO all and singular the Trees, Woods, Underwoods, Rivers, Streams, Ponds, Creeks, Rivulets, Brooks, Runs & Streams of water, Waters Water-Courses profits, Comodities, Advantages, Emoluments, privileges, Hereditaments and Appurtenances to all and singular the said lands, Tracts or parcels of Land or any and every part and parcel Thereof with the appurtenances, thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining and the reversion & reversions, remainder & remainders, rents, Issues and profits of all and singular the said Tracts and parcels of land and every part and parcel thereof and also all the Estate, Right, Title, Interest property Claim and Demand whatsoever whether native legal or Equitable of us the said Indians, and each and every of us of in or to the said Lands Tracts or parcel of lands and any and every part and parcel thereof hereby meant, mentioned or intended to be hereby Granted bargained Sold, Aliened, Released, Conveyed, Enfeoffed, Ceded, Disposed of Surrendered and Confirmed with their and every of their Rights, Members and Appurtenances unto his said Majesty King George the third, his Heirs, Successors & Assigns for ever IN WITNESS Whereof we the said Indians in behalf of our selves and Our Nation have hereunto set our Hands and Seals in the presence of his said Excellency and of the other persons Subscribing as witnesses hereunto at the aforesaid publick Meeting or

Assembly held for that purpose at Johnson Hall this day of
 in the twelfth Year of his said Majestys Reign and in the
 Year of Our Lord one thousand seven hundred & Seventy two.

HENDRICKS Mark.

ABRAMS Mark.

AGWIRAEGHJE

JOHANS CRIM

SEALED and DELIVERED

in the presence of us,

PAT. DALY

JOHN BUTLER.

Received on the day and Year above written of the within William Tryon Esquire the sum of five shillings and of the within named petitioners the sum of Eleven hundred & thirty-five pounds lawful Money of New York being the full consideration Money within mentioned.

HENDRICKS Mark.

ABRAMS Mark.

AGWIRAEGHJE

JOHAN CRIM.

I do hereby Certify that the within Deed was Executed and the consideration Money paid in my presence.

WM. TRYON.

In 1773, soon after the land had been obtained from the Indians, the original proprietors or "associates," of whom there seemed to have been twenty-five or more, met in New York city and balloted for so many of the forty townships as had been surveyed at that time. Owing to errors in the surveys, only twenty-four townships were balloted for. These townships were allotted by ballot as follows:

Township 1, Stephen Crossfield.

Township 2, Samuel Hake.

Township 3, Col. Edmund Fanning.

Township 7, William Haroxhurst.

Township 8, Joseph Jessup, Jr.

Township 9, James Leadbetter.

Township 10, Philip Livingston.

Township 11, Col. Edmund Fanning.

Township 12, Alexander Macomb.

Township 15, Nicholas Brouwer.

Township 16, Christopher Duyckink.

Township 17, Ebenezer Jessup.

Township 18, Jacob Watson.

Township 19, John T. Kempe.
Township 20, Col. Edmund Fanning.
Township 21, Philip Livingston.
Township 22, Theophilus Anthony.
Township 25, Francis Dominick.
Township 26, Goldsbrow Banyar.
Township 30, Peter Van Brough Livingston.
Township 32, John J. Kempe.
Township 33, John T. Kempe.
Township 35, David Valentine.
Township 40, Martin Vosburgh.

Totten and Crossfield were ship carpenters, living in New York; and it has been asserted that they had little or no interest in the transaction, their name having been used by their associates, who numbered about thirty persons and who were known as the proprietors. Still, when the members of this land company proceeded to cast lots for the different townships, Stephen Crossfield was present at the drawing, and by a singular coincidence drew the ballot which allotted to him Township No. 1, in which his partner, Joseph Totten, seems to have been, at one time, a joint owner.

At first, forty townships were surveyed and numbered, after which the remainder of the tract was divided into ten additional ones, so that at present there are fifty townships in the Totten and Crossfield Purchase. With the exception of some that were made up from subsidiary triangles, the townships vary from thirty-six to thirty-nine square miles, or an average of 25,000 acres each. The original intention seems to have been that they should have been laid out in parcels of six miles square; but many of these proved to be six by six and one-half miles. The records indicate that at the start the townships bore names as well as numbers; but the names have long since been dropped from the maps, have been forgotten, and are never heard of now in connection with their respective townships.

In searching through the land papers it appears, however, that some of these townships received names from their owners

in addition to their numerical designation. It may be of interest to the residents of the following townships to know that Township Ten was called Margaretta; Township Twelve, was named Arnawicham; Fifteen, Greenwich; Seventeen, Ebentown; Eighteen, Mecklenberg; Twenty-one, Harriton; Twenty-five, Dominick; and Thirty, Peterborough.

Unlike Macomb's Purchase and the Old Military Tract, in which the township boundaries run north and south and east and west, the township lines in the Totten and Crossfield Purchase appear on the map as diagonal lines running northwesterly and northeasterly; and no subsequent grants or tracts were erected within the boundaries of the original Totten and Crossfield grant, the maps of to-day showing this great territory as it was first outlined into townships by the original surveys.

Ebenezer Jessup, who was one of the proprietors concerned in the first grant, and to whom one of the townships was allotted, was prominently connected with the first surveys of this tract. He was paid for his services as a surveyor at the rate of \$25 per thousand acres, and was authorized by the company to sell the unallotted townships. The work connected with the original surveys was of the most primitive character, a compass and a drag chain only being used. The boundaries were marked by blazing at long distances the trees along the compass line, with additional marks every six miles or so at the corners of the townships. The crude and inaccurate methods in use by the early land surveyors has given rise at the present time to endless confusion and difficulty in re-establishing their old lines. Some of the tracts and patents overlap each other, while in other cases the boundaries of adjacent tracts do not coincide, leaving intervening strips of land whose ownership is in doubt or dispute. In the latter case, these strips or so-called "gores" are by right the property of the State, and it is the intention of the Forest Commission to take possession of all such areas as soon as the necessary surveys can be made in order to decide their extent and location.

The old records give some idea of the value of these lands at that time. Jessup executed December

3d, 1772, a receipt to Philip Livingston for two hundred and six pounds and eight shillings, the purchase money for two townships; in July he gave another receipt to Thomas Lewis for fifty-one pounds, in payment for three thousand acres, and on April 8, the same year, another to Chris. Duyckink for one hundred and three pounds "in full of twenty-four thousand acres," or, one township. These are preserved among the Land Papers. The action of the proprietors at a meeting, January 14, 1773, in reference to the construction of a road, indicates that their measures for the improvement of the territory were active and judicious.

The business connected with this great purchase had scarcely been completed, and the lands allotted to the various proprietors associated in the company, when the War of the Revolution broke out, and all interest in the land and further transactions well nigh ceased. On the 21st of April, 1775, only a few months preceding the day established by the Constitution of 1777, from which all royal grants were abrogated, Lord Dartmouth wrote to Gov. Tryon, that the king would confirm by letters patent to Totten and Crossfield and their associates, "their lands, on humble application" and "a disavowal of all associations" with the non-intercourse measures of the colonists.* The subsequent patents issued by the State to Crossfield and others of the original "associates" indicate that these persons took sides with the colonists in the War of the Revolution. Those of the associates who were loyal to the crown lost their lands. Ebenezer and Edward Jessup, who were very prominent in the organization of this enterprise and who must have owned a large part of the original grant, which at one time was known as the Jessup Purchase, cast their lot with the king and were included in the celebrated Act of Attainder† passed by the State of New York. They lost their property. After the war, the greater portion of this grant reverted to the newly-formed State government by which it was resold to various individuals and land companies.

* History of Essex County, by Winslow C. Watson, Albany, N.Y.; J. Munsell, 1869.

† See Volume II, Act of Attainder, pp. 176-177.

The subsequent patentees of the Totten and Crossfield Purchase, together with the township number, and year in which the patent was issued by the State, appear in the following table:

Patentees of the Townships in the Totten and Crossfield Purchase.

Twp.	Patentees.	Year.
1	Stephen Crossfield	1786
2	Robert Livingston	1786
3	Sir Jeffrey Amherst	1774
4	Isaac Norton and others	1787
5	N. Norton and others	1787
6	Sackett's Harbor & Saratoga R. R.	1855
7	Robert G. Livingston	1787
8	John Leake and others	1786
9	Frederick Rylander	1786
10	Philip Livingston	1786
11	John Leake	1786
12	John Thurman	1777
13	John Thurman	1787
14	Jacob Watson	1787
15	Frederick Rylander	1786
16	Rylander & Franklin	1786
18	Jacob Watson	1786
19	Thurman & Rockafeller	1787
20	Enoch Markham and others	1774
21	Ph. P. Livingston and others	1786
22*	Livingston and Anthony	1780
23	.....	1848
24	White Matlack and others	1786
25	Francis Dominick and others	1789
26	Goldsbrow Banyar†	1786
27	Richard Hyslop and others	1808
28	Thomas Franklin (of Phila.)	1786
29	Henry Balfour and others	1775

* The triangle north of Twp. 22 was patented to Cornelius L. Tracy in 1848.

† Banyar gave £21,200 for Township 26.

Twp.	Patentees.	Year
30	Livingston and Benedict	1786
31	Joshua Mersereau	1786
32	Alexander Macomb	1786
33	Jonathan Lawrence	1787
34	Alexander Macomb	1787
35	Alexander Macomb	1787
36	Alexander Macomb	1787
37	Sackett's Harbor & Saratoga R. R	1855
38	Alexander Macomb	1787
39	Benjamin Brandreth	1851
40	Robert G. Livingston	1786
41	Alexander Macomb	1787
42	Sackett's Harbor & Saratoga R. R.....	1855
43	do do	1855
44	Thomas Franklin (of Phila.)	1786
45	Zephaniah Platt	1786
46	Jacob Watson	1786
47	Effingham Lawrence	1786
48	Zephaniah Platt	1791
49	White Matlack	1786
50	A. H. R. Westerlo and others	1811

It will be noticed that Alexander Macomb received patents for seven townships, a territory which would amount to over 180,000 acres. Township 9, which was patented to Frederick Rylander (or Rhineland) in 1786, remains in possession of the Rhineland family, of New York, at the present time, unless it has been recently sold. Some of these townships, containing about 26,000 acres each, it appears, were owned by the State as late as 1855.

In 1871 over 500,000 acres of this land was granted by the State to the Saratoga and Sackett's Harbor Railroad Company, at five cents an acre, much of which has been recently sold or is now held by the owners at five dollars an acre; the railroad, in the meantime, never having been built. A part of it, fifty-nine miles in length, extending from Saratoga to North Creek, was completed and put in operation; but the construction of the remainder of the line was abandoned.

THE OLD MILITARY TRACT.

(665,000 acres.)

In Clinton, Franklin and Essex Counties.

During the War of the Revolution the frontier settlements of New York suffered severely from the attacks of hostile Indians, who, incited by Tories or emissaries of the crown, made frequent incursions into the peaceful valleys of the farming districts, marking their line of march with terrible scenes of pillage, fire, and massacre.

The State could not well call upon Congress for troops to protect her borders; for the general government was unable to obtain from the various States the required quotas needed in carrying on its war with Great Britain. So, the State of New York passed a law — chapter 32, Laws of 1871* — entitled “An act for raising two regiments for the defense of this State on bounties of unappropriated lands.”

This act provides that, in the number of officers and men, the regiments shall correspond to the Continental establishment, and shall be recruited whenever Congress shall agree to pay the expense of arms, accoutrements, clothing, and subsistence. It provides for land bounties as follows: To a lieutenant-colonel or major, 2,000 acres; captain, 1,500 acres; lieutenant, 1,000 acres; and to each non-commissioned officer and private, 500 acres. It permits also the hiring of substitutes, and allows the substitute to transfer his bounty right to the citizen who hired or induced him to enlist.

The law provided further “that the person receiving such grant shall either by himself, or some other person on his behalf, make an actual settlement on, and improve such lands within three years next after the conclusion of the war, or that the same shall be deemed forfeited, and revert to the use of the State.”

The townships in the Old Military Tract, which were surveyed in 1786 and remain unchanged at the present time, are

the largest of any townships in the entire Adirondack Region. In laying them out it was intended that they should be ten miles square, but they vary in some cases, Township 5 (Ellenburgh, Clinton County) proving to be, according to a recent survey, ten and one-half miles east and west, and ten and one-quarter miles north and south. Still, with the exception of Townships 1 and 2 (in Essex County), they will average about 64,000 acres each. In the Macomb Purchase the townships contain about 30,000 acres each, and in the Totten and Crossfield Purchase, about 25,000 acres each.

There are twelve townships in the Old Military Tract; Nos. 1, 2, 11, and 12 are in Essex County; 3, 4, 5, and 6 are in Clinton County; 7, 8, 9, and 10 are in Franklin County. Within this tract are the favorite summer resorts of Lake Placid, Loon Lake, and the Chateaugay Lakes.

A second tract was also surveyed in Central New York to meet the claims for land bounties; and, as the land in this subsequent grant was deemed more fertile and valuable than that in the mountain region, the settlers located their bounty lands in this new military tract. The other soon came to be known, by way of distinction, as the Old Military Tract. No part of it was ever awarded on bounty claims, and it was all sold subsequently by the Land Commissioners like the other wild lands belonging to the State.

THE REFUGEE TRACT.

(231,540 acres.)

This entire tract is situated in Clinton County, part of it bordering on Lake Champlain.

In the War of the Revolution the invasion of Canada by the American forces attracted a large number of sympathizers and allies to their cause from among the subjects of King George in Canada and Nova Scotia. Upon the failure of this invasion and the withdrawal of the American troops, such citizens as had manifested a friendly feeling to the American cause were

obliged to leave their homes and seek refuge within the lines of New York.

In acknowledgment of the claims which these refugees had on the government, the State of New York enacted — chapter 63, Laws of 1784 — among other things, that the Surveyor-General should “lay out such a number of townships of unappropriated and unoccupied lands for the Canadian and Nova Scotia refugees, upon a return signed by Brigadier-General Moses Hazen and Colonel James Livingston, on the part of the Canadian refugees, and Colonel Jeremiah Throop, on the part of the Nova Scotia refugees,* at such place in the northern part of this State as they shall think proper, not exceeding 1,000 acres to each of the commissioned officers, and 500 acres to each other person or persons, refugees as aforesaid.” This act stipulates that the refugees must have left Canada or Nova Scotia before November 1, 1782, and must have resided within this State two years prior to that date.

This tract was not divided into townships like the other large grants, but was divided into lots of 420, or 80, acres each; some lots were laid out, also, containing $333\frac{1}{3}$ acres. After the subdivisions were made by the surveyors, the lots were balloted for by the refugees, of whom 252 established their claims. It appears from the record that only a few of these persons served in the American army, as fifteen lots only, containing $333\frac{1}{3}$ acres each, were granted to such of their number as had served either as officers or private soldiers. But very little of this land was occupied within the period stipulated in the law, and the greater part of the Refugee Tract soon reverted to the State.

NOBLEBORO PATENT.

(40,960 acres.)

Situated in Herkimer County, and in the southwestern part of the Wilderness. In 1787 the Legislature of New York passed a law, entitled An act for the relief of Arthur Noble, in which

* See Volume II, pp. 185, 190.



S. R. Stoddard, Photo.

GROUP OF DOES, STATE FOREST (CATSKILLS).
Taken from Life.

it recites, as a preamble, "that Arthur Noble had been to a great expense to obtain lands for the settlement of 100 families; that by unavoidable accidents he had been frustrated in his intentions, and that the introduction and actual settlement of a number of industrious families on the frontiers of this State would be for the general advantage thereof."*. The law then provides that the Commissioners of the Land Office may grant to the said Arthur Noble land equal to "two townships, eight miles square, of the waste and unappropriated lands in any part of this State," on his paying into the treasury "at and after the rate of one shilling per acre, in certificates made receivable by law in the treasury, on the sale of unappropriated land."

Upon the passage of the law, Noble entered into immediate possession, and made some improvements as early as 1790. Among other enterprises he erected a sawmill, "and had some boards sawed out, which he took to Ireland."†

The attempted settlement and colonization of the tract was a failure, and a second effort met with the same fate. The remains of the old gristmill and sawmill were seen there in 1811.

Noble, who came to this country from Scotland, lived at Little Falls during the time that he was busy with his efforts to organize a colony on his lands. Like Col. John Brown and other wealthy landowners of that period, he went to the expense of constructing a carriage road through the woods to the scene of his projected enterprises, over which he was accustomed to ride in his coach. His plans having resulted in failure and disappointment, he returned to Scotland, where he died. In 1815, a Mr. Noble, nephew of the patentee, was still living on this tract.

The State owns, at the present time, 7,833 acres in the Nobleboro Patent, lands which reverted to it for taxes. The peculiar allotment by which this township was divided into small, narrow strips of land was the result of Arthur Noble's scheme for colonization. This allotment was made at an early date, for it appears in Burr's Atlas, which was published in 1826.

* Volume II, p. 217.

† Benson's History of Herkimer County.

ARTHURBORO PATENT.

(47,360 acres.)

Situated in the southwestern part of Hamilton County, adjoining the Nobleboro Patent.

By the law of 1787, Arthur Noble was granted two tracts of land, both of which he named after himself, calling one of them the Arthurboro, and the other the Nobleboro Patent. The law stipulated that the two tracts or "townships" should be eight miles square each. As surveyed, they proved to be seven miles northerly by nine miles westerly.

Although this tract has now a greater population than that of the Nobleboro Patent, the first settlement was not commenced until 1833, at which time Andrew K. Morehouse bought some land, built a sawmill, store, and a dwelling-house, and moved there with his family. The little village of Morehouseville indicates that the settlement thus begun was a permanent one.

Within the Arthurboro Patent are the smaller subdivisions, known as the Bethune, Maxwell, and Tefft Tracts, and the Morehouse 8,000-acre Tract. Andrew Morehouse planned and started to build a small village two miles west of the present site of Morehouseville. This settlement, which he called Bethuneville, never realized his hopes, and the project failed. The main road from Piseco Lake to the West Canada Creek runs through Arthurboro Patent, and on this tract are situated Morehouse Lake and the grounds of the Wilmurt Lake Club.

MOOSE RIVER TRACT.

(207,360 acres.)

Hamilton and Herkimer Counties.

This tract was held by the State until a comparatively recent date, except 60,801 acres, which were granted to Anson Blake, in 1847. The tract takes its name from the Moose River, the south branch of which runs through it, in an easterly direction, for over twenty-three miles. The tract is a large one, containing

ten townships, aggregating 207,360 acres. With the exception of the irregularly shaped ones along the southwest line, each township is a little over six miles square, containing about 23,500 acres. Within this tract are situated the Bisby Lakes, Woodhull Reservoir, Lake Honnedaga (Jock's Lake), and Little Moose Lake. About one-half of the Moose River Tract is now owned by the Adirondack League Club, and is used as a game preserve and summer resort.

KAYADEROSSERAS PATENT.

Granted to Nanning Hermanse and twelve others, November 2, 1708. Its extent was originally about 700,000 acres, embracing lands in Fulton and Saratoga Counties. This land was the subject of a long dispute between the whites and Indians, and it was not until 1768 that the deed, given by the Mohawk chief in 1704, was confirmed by the tribe; and then only through the powerful influence of Sir William Johnson.

The sachems complained that the persons who acted as agents for the purchasers deceived them with statements that the deed called only for "lands enough for a good-sized farm." They denied that they ever intended to sell for a few trinkets the half million acres which had formed their ancestral hunting grounds.

In 1772 the two patents of Kay-ad-ros-se-ra* and Sar-agh-to-ga were consolidated by the Colonial Government into one tract, which was named after the smaller patent, and called the District of Saratoga. The term Kayaderosseras Patent, at present, refers to a particular tract of about 40,000 acres, situated in Saratoga County, in the towns of Corinth, Day, Greenfield, Providence, and Wilton. The old Indian word is also preserved in the name of the Kayaderosseras Creek, which, flowing through the village of Ballston, empties into Saratoga Lake.

* So written in Southier's map, 1779.

ROYAL GRANT.

(93,000 acres.)

[Herkimer County.]

The Royal Grant composed a tract located between the East Canada and West Canada Creeks, which was acquired by Sir William Johnson from his Indian friends, in 1760, and for which he received a patent from the Colonial Government, April 16, 1765. This tract embraced 93,000 acres of fertile land, in a desirable location.

The land was obtained by Sir William Johnson from the Mohawk Indians through the influence of King Hendrick, an Indian chief. The story of the dreams which happened to King Hendrick and Johnson in connection with this transaction has been told so often in the colonial histories of New York that any mention of the Royal Grant would be incomplete without it.

As the story goes, King Hendrick and Sir William were on friendly terms, and were quite intimate in their social relations. The old sachem while on a visit to the baronial mansion, noticed a new coat, richly embroidered with gold lace, which Sir William had intended for his own person. The chief was deeply enamored with the coat, and so, one morning, he announced to the baronet that in the night just passed he had dreamed that Sir William had made him a present of the garment. Among the Iroquois, who believed that dreams were an inspiration from a superior source, such an announcement was equivalent to a demand which could be satisfied only by the gift of the coveted treasure. The quick-witted Irishman, well versed in Indian tradition and custom, knew this, and handed the coat to the chief promptly and cheerfully. Soon after this incident Sir William returned the visit of his guest, and on greeting his Indian host one morning announced that he, too, had had a dream. When asked its tenor, he informed King Hendrick that he dreamed that the land between the Canada Creeks was all his own. It required all the stoicism of Indian nature to enable the old chief to retain an outward composure at the audacity and momentous character of the proposition thus forced upon his attention.

But, true to the traditions of his race, which required prompt requital for favors as well as injuries, the sachem, after a moment of deep thought, told Sir William that he could have the land, and then added, significantly, that for the future they had better not dream any more. He did not want to be outdone in generosity, neither did he want to forfeit the friendship of the British agent. Old Hendrick and his tribe were loyal to the English, and he died fighting the battles of King George, in the French campaign of 1755.

This story of the dreams has been told by various writers, and is often embellished by giving the conversation on the part of Hendrick in Indian dialect. But it has been asserted, with good reasons, that the entire story is a piece of fiction. Hendrick was killed at the battle of Lake George, ten years before the Royal Grant was made by the agents of the crown. Johnson's well-known integrity, and scrupulous regard for honor in all his dealings with the Indians, render it highly improbable that he should have resorted to any such trick to gain possession of their lands. In fact, the ascendancy and influence which enabled him to control this dangerous and uncertain element in his affairs was obtained only through an unwavering honesty in his transactions with them. Old Hendrick had a son, "Little Hendrick," who was fighting at his father's side when the old chief fell at Bloody Pond; and it has been suggested that it may have been the son who did the dreaming, an hypothesis which would reconcile the impossibility of the date.

On the other hand, it is argued that it was a common thing for the Indians to give lands for a song to white adventurers whom they liked; and, that this was a current story in the lifetime of the baronet which, had it been false or without any foundation of truth, he would very likely have denied. It is also claimed that the story was characteristic of Johnson, and did not necessarily reflect on the uprightness of his dealings with the Indians, who "always liked a joke if there was pith in it;"* and that, consequently, his fair dealings were no evidence of the falsity of the story.

* *Frontiersmen of New York*; by Jephtha R. Sims

The anecdote appears in print as early as 1842, in Spofford's *Gazetteer of the State of New York*, the author claiming that the circumstances were related to him by an old Dutchman who was well acquainted with the facts.

Benton, the historian, says:* "Judge Haring, now living, who came to Johnstown in 1795, and, at an early day, was quite familiar with the inhabitants, old and young, says that Sir William dreamed for the land known as the Kingsborough Patent, where he built his own family mansion, and not for the Royal Grant." This is probably a correct explanation of the whole story, for Mr. Stone,§ in his *Life of Johnson*, says that the baronet received only 3,000 acres for his dream. He states further, that the lands in the Royal Grant were given to Johnson by the Mohawk chiefs, as a token of their esteem, and that Johnson accepted the tract with considerable reluctance; and that when he finally accepted it, through fear of offending the Indians by declining their proffered gift, he insisted on making a present in return of \$12,000. But Mr. Stone is conspicuously inaccurate in his statement of the area, which he says was 66,000 acres.

Sir William Johnson, however, obtained the lands in the Royal Grant from Hendrick's tribe, and in his will he gave to six of his natural children by Mollie Brant, his Indian wife, 15,000 acres of this tract. The lands which were thus given to three of his half-breed daughters were confiscated after the Revolution by the Act of Attainder, but the State subsequently rescinded its action as regards these children. That portion of the Royal Grant which, through Sir William's will, passed into the hands of Sir William Johnson, as heir, was held by the State under the Confiscation Act, and resold to various parties.

CHASE'S PATENT.

(12,000 acres.)

Situated in Fulton County, in the Towns of Bleecker and Mayfield, and containing 2,790 acres of the Forest Preserve.

* *History of Herkimer County*, by Nathaniel S. Benton, Albany, 1896.

§ *Life of Sir William Johnson*, by William L. Stone.

In 1788, the Legislature passed a law, entitled "An act for the relief of William Chace," containing this preamble:

"Whereas, William Chace, of Schaghticooke, in the county of Albany, hath erected a bridge across the Hosick river, being thereunto encouraged by sundry of the inhabitants of that and the neighboring districts; and hath expended sixteen hundred pounds in erecting said bridge; and that said bridge is found to be of great public utility, and it appears proper that compensation should be made to the said William Chace."

The law therefore enacts that, for the use of said bridge, Chase shall have the right to demand toll, and that no other bridge shall be erected in its vicinity.

In 1792, the Legislature enacted further that, in consideration of Chase's right, title and interest in this bridge, that the Commissioners of the Land Office shall grant to him "a tract of unappropriated land, not exceeding twelve thousand acres, in such part of the State as they may think proper, to the northward of the Mohawk River." The patent was granted December 29, 1792.

William Chase, the patentee, was a sea captain in early life, and, in the Revolution, a privateer. He was captured and taken to Europe, and while there spent some time in France. After the war he removed from Providence, R. I., to Hoosick, N. Y., where he built the bridge referred to in the act of legislation.

In 1793, Chase made a proposal to the Land Commissioners, offering to pay two shillings per acre for 250,000 acres of land west of Bergen's Purchase. He intended to have bought the land secured by Glen, Bleecker & Lansing, who forestalled him in obtaining a patent for that tract; and it is related of him that, when he heard of this, he said that "he would rather have lost his right in Heaven than a title to this soil."

GLEN, BLEECKER & LANSING PATENT.

(89,297 acres.)

Situated in Fulton County, along the extreme southern boundary of the Great Forest, and containing 12,618 acres of the Forest Preserve.

On September 25, 1792, Cornelius Glen, Barent Bleecker, and Abraham G. Lansing offered two shillings per acre for 160,000 acres of land adjoining the east bounds of the Jerseyfield Patent, and situated in "Montgomery County."

On January 19, 1793, they write to the Land Commissioners that: "We have been informed that Mr. Samuel (?) Chase hath lately interposed a location for 12,000 acres on part of the tract for the purchase of which we submitted proposals to your Honorable Board in October last, and that our application hath, in consequence, been rejected. We therefore renew our proposal for said tract, subject to the exception of Mr. Chase's location, and we agree to pay for the remainder at the rate of three shillings per acre."

They submitted another proposal, dated at Albany, March 21, 1793, in which the tract is described by metes and bounds and adjoining patents, and estimated to contain 115,000 acres; and in this second proposal they increase their offered price to three shillings, seven and one-half pence per acre.

A larger price for this land was offered by one "Ben" Case, but on longer time; and in a memorandum on file in the Land Papers, Secretary of State's office, there is a comparison of the two bids as follows:

The principal and interest of Glen, Bleecker & Lansing's offer will amount			
on April 4, 1799, to.....	£27,956	13s	7d
The principal and interest of Ben Case's offer will amount, on same date, to...			
	£25,898	10s	11d
<hr/>			
The difference in favor of Glen, Bleecker & Lansing			
	£2,067	14s	7d
<hr/> <hr/>			

A survey and location of this patent was made by Simeon De Witt, Surveyor-General; and on his return, dated October 27, 1794, it appears that, after excepting the 12,000 acres of Chase's Patent, there were 89,297 acres, less 4,465 acres deducted for highways.

The Glen, Bleecker & Lansing Patent surrounds the land of Chase's Patent. The peculiar location of the one within the other is clearly shown on the large Adirondack map issued by the Forest Commission in 1893.

JOHN GLEN AND FORTY-FOUR OTHERS PATENT.

(45,000 acres.)

The Glen Patents, of which there were several, were granted in August, 1770. They embraced lands in Fulton and Saratoga Counties. John Glen was a prominent operator in public lands at that period, and his name is preserved in that of the village of Glens Falls. The Glen Patent, granted May 7, 1771, to John and Henry Glen, contained 875 acres, and was located in the Town of Moreau, on the south side of the Hudson River, at Glens Falls, or "Great Falls," as described in the patent.

The patent to "John Glen and 44 Others" was granted August 14, 1770, and contained 45,000 acres "and the usual allowance for highways." It is situated in the Towns of Edinburgh and Providence, Saratoga County.

The Glen & Yates Patent was granted to John Glen and Christopher Yates, August 3, 1786. This tract, which contains 9,450 acres, is situated on the north bank of the Sacandaga River, and within the lines of Palmer's Purchase. The river is the dividing line between Glen & Yates Patent and that of John Glen and 44 Others.

An Indian deed was granted for this land, in 1772, for "\$140, or pieces of eight."

BERGEN'S PURCHASE.

(19,589 acres.)

Situated in the southeastern part of Hamilton County, along both sides of the Sacandaga River. It is within the lines of the proposed Adirondack Park, and contains 4,629 acres of State land.

On December 23, 1769, John Bergen and his associates made petition, saying that they had "lately discovered a certain tract of land as yet unpurchased of the native Indian proprietors," and were desirous of purchasing the land "in order to obtain his Majesty's Letters Patent for the same." It should be understood here that the Government had issued an order that no land patent should be granted until the petitioner should have first purchased the land from the Indians and obtained a deed from them.

Associated with Bergen in this purchase were Thomas Palmer, Nicholas Low, Isaac Low, Philip Livingston, Dirck Lefferts, Goldsbrow Banyar, Henry Remsen and others—twenty-four in all. This tract, then estimated at 24,000 acres, was deeded, July 31, 1772, by the Mohawk Indians for a consideration of £100. The deed was signed by Hendricks and three other chiefs. The latter, in signing, made their mark with an X, in the usual manner, but Hendricks, in making his mark, drew, with the pen, a picture of a turtle. In signing the Totten & Crossfield deed, Hendricks made his mark in the same manner, instead of making the customary cross used by persons who cannot write. These old Indian deeds, with their quaint verbiage, are interesting documents. They are carefully and neatly written, and although the paper is sere and yellow with its century of age, the ink is black and legible as if written yesterday. They are on file in the office of the Secretary of State.

PALMER'S PURCHASE.

(135,000 acres.)

Situated in Hamilton, Warren, and Saratoga Counties, a large share of it being owned by the State, and in the Forest Preserve.

In July, 1772, the Indians of the tribe of "Mohocks" deeded to Thomas Palmer and his associates their right to 133,000 acres on the north banks of the Sacandaga River, for £423, "lawful money of New York." Associated with Palmer were Dirck Lefferts, Philip Livingston, Peter Remsen, and others. In 1786

they filed a map with the Commissioners of the Land Office, in which the three great divisions, together with the allotment of the proprietors, are shown; also three lots, aggregating 28,000 acres, which are marked as State lots. Although the three great divisions are shown on this map, the names "River, Middle, and Rear" Divisions, now in use, do not appear.

Within this tract are situated the Glen & Yates Patent, Livingston Patent, and the Lefferts Tract.

ROAD PATENT.

(9,866 acres.)

Situated in Essex county. This patent was for a narrow strip of land, less than a mile in width and over twelve miles long, located on both sides of the Schroon River, above Schroon Lake. The tract forms a part of the eastern boundary of the Adirondack Park, the zigzag line of which along this portion is due to the peculiar, serrated line of the Road Patent.

On February 10, 1790, Simeon De Witt, Surveyor-General, made a report, recommending that it would be advisable to have a road laid out from "Schroon" River to the Falls of the Great Chazy River, running through Township 24 to the south line of Clinton County, and thence to the Chazy Falls. On February 12, 1790, John Thurman, Zephaniah Platt, and Platt Rogers addressed a communication "To His Excellency, the Governor and the Honorable the Commissioners of the Land Office," agreeing that if the 25,000 acres set apart as payment for making such a road be granted to them, they would construct the road, Thurman to build one-third and the others to construct the remainder, the said road "to be made so that a wagon loaded with hay or grain, in the sheaf, may not be obstructed."

In addition to the Road Patent along the Schroon River, there is another tract, of about 10,000 acres, situated on the west side of Schroon Lake, known as "Platt Rogers & Co.'s Road Patent;" and one of about 3,100 acres at the south end or foot of Schroon Lake, extending along each side of the outlet or river, this last

one being known as "Thurman's Road Patent." The latter was granted May 8, 1795.

Still another patent was located for these parties in Clinton County.

REMSENBURGH PATENT.

(48,000 acres.)

Situated in Herkimer and Oneida Counties, and in the extreme southwestern part of the Wilderness, north of and adjoining the West Canada Creek.

In 1786, Henry Remsen, Derick Van Ingen, George Klock, and Jacob Klock located this tract in Montgomery County, as it was then called. Their application, dated July 3, 1786, describes the location as beginning at the northwest corner of the Jerseyfield Patent.

Henry Remsen paid Governor Tryon £100 on this purchase; and in an affidavit made in 1785, deposes, among other things, "that he paid one hundred pounds to William Tryon, Esq., then Governor of the Colony of New York; that he intimated his wish to have a receipt, but the Governor answered that it was not customary for Public Officers to give receipts."*

AMHERST PATENT.

(20,000 acres.)

Situated in Hamilton County, and within Township 3, Totten & Crossfield's Purchase.

The Cedar Lakes, in which the Cedar River, one of the principal branches of the Hudson, takes its rise, are situated on this tract.

A mandamus was granted at the Court of St. James, April 14, 1769, directing that the Governor of New York cause 20,000 acres of land to be surveyed where the memorialist may select. The memorialist was Sir Jeffrey Amherst, Knight of the Bath,

* Land Papers; Office of Secretary of State.

to whom this land was granted "for extraordinary merits in the public service." Lord Amherst, it will be remembered, was the Commander-in-Chief of the British forces in the French-Colonial War of 1755-59. He commanded the British army at the siege and capture of Louisburg, and was in command at the final reduction of the French forts at Ticonderoga and Crown Point.

On March 17, 1774, Alexander Colden, Surveyor-General, made a return of a survey "of a certain tract of land, part of a township situated in Tryon County, distinguished by name of No. 3, included within a large tract of land lately purchased of the Indians, in behalf of Joseph Totten and Stephen Crossfield." The tract of land thus surveyed was granted to Lord Amherst. The Surveyor-General submitted a map of the tract with his report, containing an allotment of twenty-four lots, but the divisions shown do not correspond in any way to the allotment of Township 3 as now shown on the map of the Forest Commission, recently issued.

LAWRENCE TRACT.

(35,560 acres.)

Situated in the southwestern part of Hamilton County, and granted to Jonathan Lawrence in 1791.

On March 28, 1793, he wrote to Gerard Bancker, State Treasurer, complaining that he did not receive the entire amount of land applied for; that the western portion of the tract had been sold to other parties, and that had he known that fact he would not have bid so much for it. The sale referred to was probably the land sold as the Vrooman Patent. The Forest Preserve occupies 9,859 acres of this tract.

JERSEYFIELD PATENT.

(94,000 acres.)

Situated in Herkimer and Fulton Counties, in the extreme southern part of the Great Forest. It is outside the boundary of the Adirondack Park, but adjoins it for twenty-three miles.

It is only partly covered with woods, a large part of this tract having been converted into farms. There are 12,306 acres of State forest within this patent.

Henry Glen, representing himself and ninety-three others, petitioned November 26, 1766, "for license to purchase of the Indians 100,000 acres of land, about fifty miles west of Schenectady, and north of the Mohawk River, between two creeks" (the Canada Creeks). This patent, which was also known as Glen's Purchase, was granted April 12, 1770.

VROOMAN'S PATENT.

(14,193 acres.)

Situated in Hamilton and Herkimer Counties, on the east side of the West Canada Creek, and on the southern boundary of the Adirondack Park.

On June 11, 1768, the Indians, in consideration of £1,000, "and what is more agreed upon by Sir William Johnson," conveyed this tract: The patent was made to Isaac Vrooman, John Duncan, John Glen, Jr., and Alexander Campbell. On May 8, 1769, a receipt was given by the Indians, through and in the handwriting of Sir William Johnson, for £250 in currency, the balance due on the purchase.

ADGATE'S PATENT.

(43,907 acres.)

Situated in Herkimer and Oneida Counties, in the southwestern part of the Wilderness.

On March 11, 1789, Matthew Adgate, in behalf of himself and others, applied for permission to make a road in the western part of the State, so as to entitle him to a grant of land, pursuant to an act passed for that purpose.

In 1791, Adgate offered two shillings six pence per acre for 45,000 acres, south of Macomb's Purchase and north of Oothoudt's Patent, which was accepted by the Land Commissioners.

Matthew Adgate owned other large tracts of land in New York, one of them in Clinton County, and one in Tryon.

HOFFMAN PATENT.

(25,200 acres.)

An irregular-shaped tract, known as the Hoffman Township, situated on the eastern border of the Wilderness, in the Towns of Schroon and Minerva, Essex County.

The Surveyor-General, March 26, 1793, made a return of a survey of a tract of land for Anthony Hoffman and his associates, the field notes showing that the tract contained 24,000 acres, after making an allowance of five per cent for highways.

On May 16, 1795, the executors of Hoffman made payment for 24,000 acres, at one shilling per acre, amounting to £1,200, with £179 13s. 4d. added for interest.

HYDE TOWNSHIP OR JESSUP'S PATENT.

(40,000 acres.)

Situated in Warren County, on either side of the Hudson, and extending to the Schroon River, which forms its eastern boundary.

Ebenezer and Edward Jessup petitioned, December 10, 1770, on behalf of themselves and associates, forty in all, for permission to purchase of the Indians 40,000 acres of land, "on the west side of the most northerly branch of Hudson's River."

An Indian deed for the same was granted in July, 1772, in which its boundaries are described as beginning at a point on the west bank of Hudson's River, running thence north, thirty degrees west, ten miles; thence north, sixty degrees east, to the northeast branch of the Hudson, and thence down the same to the place of beginning.

The price paid for this tract was £186, and attached to the deed was a receipt, stating that the Indians had received from

Governor Tryon the sum of five shillings, and from petitioners £186, being the full consideration. In signing, Hendricks, the Mohawk chief, made his customary mark, by drawing with the pen a picture of a turtle.

On November 16th of the same year, the Jessups and their associates asked for a patent for this land, describing it, in this document, as being in the "County of Charlotte." They asked also that the land might be erected into a township, by the name of Hyde. One of the persons associated in this purchase was Charles Hyde.

By the Act of Attainder, enacted by the State of New York in 1779, Edward and Ebenezer Jessup, in company with many others named in the law, were "convicted and attainted" as enemies to the State, and all their estate, "both real and personal," was "declared to be forfeited to and vested in the people of this State."

In addition to his other holdings, Ebenezer Jessup owned a large amount of land in the Totten & Crossfield Purchase, which, at one time, was known, also, as Jessup's Purchase.

JESSUP'S PURCHASE.

(13,650 acres.)

Situated in Warren County, in the Town of Luzerne.

On October 8, 1776, Ebenezer Jessup, William Johnson, and thirteen associates petitioned for a tract of land on the east side of "Hudson's" River, to the northward of Queensbury, between said river and Lake George, "containing 12,000 to 15,000 acres." A part of this purchase is shown on the Adirondack map issued by the Forest Commission, in which two distinct tracts appear, one marked as Jessup's 7,550-Acre Patent, and the other as Jessup's 4,000-Acre Patent. Lake Luzerne, one of the loveliest sheets of water in Northern New York, is situated within the latter-named tract. There was still another tract included in the purchase thus made by Jessup.

Ebenezer Jessup was not only a prominent landowner, but he was a land surveyor of good reputation. He made the pre-

liminary surveys in the great Totten & Crossfield Purchase, and laid out and marked the boundaries of its townships. The Jessup River, one of the principal tributaries to the upper Hudson, was named after him.

DARTMOUTH PATENT.

(47,000 acres.)

Situated in Warren and Saratoga Counties, on the west bank of the Hudson River, and lying partly within the Adirondack Park. The patent is divided into two parts, known as the Great Tract, and the Small Tract, the former containing 28,964 acres, and the latter 18,036; total, 40,000 acres.

On December 23, 1772, Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, on behalf of himself and his associates, petitioned for a grant of land containing 47,000 acres, situated on the north and west (Sacandaga) branches of Hudson's River, beginning at the junction of said branches. An Indian deed was granted for the same.

On August 19, 1774, David Colden, Surveyor-General, made a return of the survey of this tract, which he describes as lying on the north side of the Sacandaga or west branch of Hudson's River, in "the counties of Albany and Charlotte." He makes a separate return for each tract. These tracts were named in honor of the Earl of Dartmouth.

BAILEY'S PATENT.

(8,000 acres.)

Situated in Essex County, in the north half of Township 25, Totten & Crossfield's Purchase.

This patent was granted March 5, 1806, and was surveyed and laid out into eighty lots. It does not occupy the entire north half of Township 25, the eastern part of the north half being occupied by Thorn's Survey. The southerly line of Bailey's Patent forms a part of the southeastern boundary of the Adirondack Park.

In 1793, the Legislature passed "An act for the relief of John Bailey."* From the text of this law it appears that John Bailey, "of the City of New York," purchased a patent for 8,000 acres from one Elias Bland; that Bland, "notwithstanding repeated applications were made to the then government," was unable to procure a patent for the land prior to October 14, 1775, after which, by the Constitution of the State, all grants made by the King of Great Britain were null and void; and that Bailey purchased the patent not knowing that it had been set aside by law. The act then directs the Commissioners of the Land Office to issue letters patent to Bailey for 8,000 acres of unappropriated land in the Totten & Crossfield Purchase at one shilling per acre.

DOMINICK'S PATENT.

(12,600 acres.)

Situated in the south part of Essex County, and extending a short distance into Warren County.

This patent is formed by the south half of Township 25, Totten & Crossfield Purchase, and was granted to Francis Dominick, August 14, 1789.

Prior to this, in 1773, he had petitioned on behalf of himself and his associates for a grant of 24,000 acres of land "distinguished as Lot (Twp.) No. 25, in Totten & Crossfield's Purchase, and that the same might be erected into a township by the name of Dominick."

LOTT & LOW'S PATENT.

(20,000 acres.)

Situated in Fulton County, on the extreme southern edge of the Wilderness, and containing but a small amount of woodlands. It is occupied almost entirely by farms, the State owning only two lots in the entire tract.

* See Volume II, page 221.

On July 1, 1761, Abraham Lott, Jr., Isaac Low, James Duane, and seventeen others presented a petition praying for letters patent for 20,000 acres on the north side of the "Mohawks" River, between two creeks, the one called Garoga and the other Canada Creek, about five miles from said river. On March 15, 1769, Isaac Low, in behalf of himself and associates, petitioned for a grant of 1,000 acres to each, to be located in this same territory.

Isaac Low was a prominent landowner at that period, having a share in the Palmer Purchase and in other large grants.

An Indian deed had been obtained for this land in 1754, for \$180, "or £72, current money of the Province of New York."

HASENCLEVER'S PATENT.

(18,000 acres.)

Situated in Herkimer County.—In a memorial, dated November 10, 1766, Peter Hasenclever, in behalf of himself, and the Hon. David Grame, and Mr. Andrew Seton of London, and their associates, to the number of forty persons, ask for a grant of 40,000 acres, located to the north of Cosby's Manor and adjacent to the Canada Creek. He recites that the memorialist and his associates "have imported, at their own charge, a number of laboring German Protestants from Europe, thirty-six families of whom are now actually settled there." In a further petition, dated February 17, 1768, Hasenclever and his associates ask for a grant of 18,000 acres in the Mohawk Country, above the German Flats, on a part of a tract lately purchased from the Oneida Indians.

This tract was purchased from the Indians in October, 1776. The land was surveyed, and a return of the same made by Alex. Colden, Surveyor-General, dated January 12, 1769, places its area at 18,000 acres. This return describes it as bounded on the southwest by Cosby's Manor and tract of Wm. Willett; on the northeast and southeast by the Canada Creek; on the northwest by lands granted to William and Jacob Walton; and south by said Canada Creek and German Flats.

DEANE'S PATENT.

(30,000 acres.)

Situated in Clinton County, on the shore of Lake Champlain. Elkana Deane and six others of the same family name petitioned, December 20, 1765, in behalf of themselves and twenty-three others, their associates, for a grant of 30,000 acres on Grand or Great Isle, in Lake Champlain, and asked that it be divided into thirty equal parts. The petition recites that most of them have lately arrived from Ireland, with their families, and are in need of good land to settle upon.

The Deanes make further petition, on September 9, 1766, stating that they made a survey, at great expense, of Grand Isle, and found that it contained only 16,000 acres; they ask, therefore, for 14,000 acres more, contiguous, to be bounded on the east by the lake; south by west line from the bottom of Bay de Francois; and northward and westward far enough to contain 14,000 acres.

ARTILLERY PATENT.

(24,000 acres.)

Situated in Washington County, and one of the tracts set apart for military purposes.

On January 26, 1763, Joseph Walton and twenty-three others joined in a petition to Robert Moncton, "Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over the Province of New York," stating that the petitioners "are informed there is a considerable tract of vacant land within this Province on the east side of Hudson's River, vested in the Crown, lying and being in the County of Albany."

This patent lies on the west side of Wood Creek, north of and adjoining the tract granted James Bradshaw and others, called the Kingsbury Patent. A bond, dated October 18, 1764, was given by John Williamson and others, in the sum of £300, conditional that Joseph Walton and his associates should settle forty-eight families on these lands within three years.

DUERVILLE PATENT.

(39,692 acres.)

Situated in Clinton County, and named after William Duer, one of the original owners.

On July 7, 1772, William Wentworth and thirty-five others made a petition, asking for a grant of 36,000 acres of land, to the west of Lake Champlain, which petition was granted by an order of the Council, November 11, 1772. On December 8th of the same year, Governor Tryon issued a warrant, directing Alex. Colden, the Surveyor-General, to survey and lay out 36,000 acres of a certain tract of vacant land, "vested in the Crown, and ungranted by the Government of Canada," for William Wentworth and his associates. The tract is described in the warrant as situated about nine miles west from that part of Lake Champlain called Bay St. Amont and Bay de Francois. A return of this survey showed that the tract contained 36,000 acres, with an additional 1,800 acres allowed for highways, and 1,892 acres "for a minister and school." The land was not patented by the State until 1785, at which time the patents were granted to the various parties in accordance with their respective shares, there having been, in the meantime, considerable dispute among those interested as to the ownership of the tract. Several caveats and petitions were filed by Simeon Metcalf, William Duer, John Kelly, and Enos Stevens,* relating to their claims and differences.

VARIOUS TRACTS.

In the tabulated list of land grants given in the preceding pages many of the lands are named as tracts, such as the Jay Tract, Iron Ore Tract, Brant Lake Tract, Oxbow Tract, Paradox Tract and others. It will be noticed that all these "tracts," so-called, were established after the War of the Revolution and were authorized by the State. These tracts originated

* See Land Papers.

through the action of the Commissioners of the Land Office, who from time to time set apart areas of vacant or unappropriated State land, which having been surveyed and allotted were sold lot by lot to the various parties. It will thus be seen that there is a difference between a tract and a patent. A patent was a large piece of land sold or granted by the State to some one individual or company who, in time, divided it up and resold in small lots. A tract was also a large piece of land, but one in which the State sold direct to the various purchasers without the intervention of any patentee.

Many of the old Adirondack patents were issued to some person to whose name was attached the phrase "and others." This was due to the refusal of the State authorities to grant more than 1,000 acres to any one individual, the large grants previously made having elicited severe criticism. The rule, however, was easily evaded, for in almost every case "the others" soon transferred their fictitious interests to the original projectors of the enterprise.

GOSPEL, SCHOOL, AND LITERATURE LOTS.

In many of the Adirondack townships there are lands located in the center of the townships which are known as the Gospel and School, and Literature Lots. The frequency with which these lots appear, and the peculiarity in the designation, gives rise to many questions regarding their origin and the meaning of their title.

In 1786, the Legislature passed "An Act for the sale of unappropriated lands," in which it directed that each township should be subdivided into lots as nearly square as might be, each lot to contain six hundred and forty acres; and that in every township so laid out, the Surveyor-General should mark one lot on the map "Gospel and Schools," and one other lot "for promoting literature," which lots should be as nearly central in every township as might be, and the lots so marked should not be sold, but the lot marked "Gospel and Schools" should be reserved for, and applied to, promoting the gospel

and a public school in such township; and the lot marked "for promoting literature," should be reserved to the people of this State to be hereafter applied by the Legislature for promoting literature in this State.

By turning to the large Adirondack map, recently issued by the Forest Commission, showing the landed allotment, the location of many of these Gospel and School, and Literature lots is shown. These lots seem to have been located only in the Totten & Crossfield Purchase although the State owned other large areas of unappropriated lands. Some of the towns have sold their Gospel and School, and Literature lands; but their right to do so has been seriously questioned.

The map shows that there are Gospel and School, and Literature Lots still existing in Townships 4, 5, 7, 8, 17, 19, 31, 32, 35, and 36, of the Totten & Crossfield Purchase; and that three of these—in Twps. 17, 19 and 32—have come into the possession of the State and now form part of the Forest Preserve. These lots, as directed in the law, contain 640 acres, the two forming a rectangular parallelogram of 1,280 acres situated in the center of the township with a northerly line just double in length that of the easterly one.





S. E. Stoddard, Photo.

PARADISE BAY, LAKE GEORGE.

PRIVATE PRESERVES
IN THE
ADIRONDACK FOREST.

Private Preserves.

Fully one-fourth of the Great Forest of Northern New York is held in private preserves by clubs, associations, or individuals, the land being used by the owners for fishing and hunting, for a summer resort, or for the revenues derived from the sale of such timber as may be cut without injury to existing forest conditions. The aims and objects of the various proprietors are wholly dependent on the preservation of their forests, in which respect their interests are identical with those of the State. It is evident, also, that owing to the persistent refusal of the Legislature to appropriate money for the purchase of Adirondack lands, the preservation of its forests, outside those owned by the State, is dependent largely on the existence of these private preserves. In view of this, some information regarding them, their lands, situation, extent, and ownership, seems to be a pertinent matter for this report.

In the management of their forests, the clubs have a great advantage over the State. The private preserves, in every instance, are in one solid block; the State lands are scattered in small parcels all over Northern New York. Some of the preserves have 100,000 acres or more in one solid forest; the State has not 15,000 acres in any one parcel. Township 40, in Hamilton County, is the largest tract owned by the State; but in this township there are several private holdings on Raquette Lake. No one can cross the boundaries of the great private preserves, except with permission and under surveillance; anyone can cross State lands. Anyone can go on a lot not owned by the State, but situated within, or surrounded by, the Forest Preserve, and there cut down timber, trespass over the lines, set fallow fires, and injure the State forests, which surround this petty holding, before the local forester can stop them. Until the scattered State lands are consolidated into

solid preserves, it will be extremely difficult for the small number of State foresters to watch the many hundred petty holdings that are sandwiched between State lands all through the Adirondacks.

The private preserves embrace in the aggregate 941,036 acres, distributed as follows:

PRIVATE PRESERVES.

NAME.	County.	Acres.
Adirondack League Club	Hamilton and Herkimer.	116,000
Adirondack Club	Essex	96,000
Adirondack Mountain Reserve.....	Essex	28,626
Adirondack Preserve Association.....	Essex	4,688
Adirondack Forestry Association.....	Hamilton	8,500
Nehasane Park Association.....	Hamilton and Herkimer.	112,000
The W. S. Webb Forests.....	Hamilton and Herkimer.	76,000
DeCamp Preserve	Herkimer	29,500
Hall & Patton's Preserve.....	Herkimer	5,000
Beaver River Club	Herkimer	6,200
Sumner Park.....	Hamilton	56,000
Hamilton Park	Hamilton	25,000
Brandreth Park	Hamilton	26,000
Mountain Park	Hamilton	86,588
Morehouse Lake Club	Hamilton	1,662
Bog Lake Camp.....	Hamilton	5,363
Wilmurt Club	Hamilton	1,655
"G" Lake Preserve.....	Hamilton	520
Santanoni Park.....	Essex	10,135
Putnam Preserve	Essex	8,540
Moose Pond Club	Essex	656
Santa Clara Preserve.....	Franklin	62,000
Upper Saranac Association.....	Franklin	26,000
Litchfield Park	Franklin	8,600
King Park.....	Franklin	8,600
Saranac Club	Franklin	287
Paul Smith's Preserve	Franklin	18,700
Ampersand Preserve.....	Franklin	50,000
Everton Preserve	Franklin	10,240
Kushaqua Club	Franklin	4,832
Ragged Lake Rod and Gun Club.....	Franklin	850
Vilas Preserve.....	St. Lawrence	36,195
Childwold Park	St. Lawrence	9,803
Hollywood Club	St. Lawrence	10,796
Kildare Club.....	St. Lawrence	9,903
Cutting Preserve.....	St. Lawrence	7,510
Grasse River Club.....	St. Lawrence	4,000
Raquette Club	St. Lawrence	1,750
Inlet Club	St. Lawrence	7,680
Wyman Preserve	St. Lawrence	640
Lone Star Club	St. Lawrence	640
Inwood Club.....	St. Lawrence	640
Granshue Club.....	St. Lawrence	8,752
Connell Preserve	St. Lawrence	8,266
Forest Home.....	Lewis	850
Total.....		941,036

Adirondack League Club.

The objects of this club, as stated in its constitution, are: "The preservation and conservation of the Adirondack forests, and the proper protection of game and fish in the Adirondack region; the establishment and promotion of an improved system of forestry; and the maintenance of an ample preserve for the benefit of its members for the purpose of hunting, fishing, rest and recreation."

Its lands are situated in the southwestern part of the Wilderness, in the counties of Hamilton and Herkimer. The club was organized in 1890. It owns Townships 2, 6, 7 and 8 of the Moose River Tract, containing 104,000 acres; the territory once known as the Anson Blake Tract, for which it paid \$475,000; also a part of the Adgate Tract, lying southwest of Township 6. Of this area, 93,000 acres were primeval forest, in which not a tree had been cut. It has also acquired recently what is known as the Wager Tract, lying to the west of Township 2 and north of Township 6, making the entire acreage owned by the club, 116,000 acres. In addition it controls, through a lease, the exclusive hunting and fishing privileges on 60,000 acres more, in Townships 5, 9 and 10, adjoining it on the east; in all, a contiguous hunting and fishing ground of over 175,000 acres or 273 square miles.

The officers of the club are: President, A. G. Mills, 38 Park Row, New York; vice-president, Warren Higley, 120 Broadway, New York; treasurer, Henry S. Harper, Franklin Square, New York; secretary, Robert C. Alexander, 203 Broadway, New York.

The number of membership shares is limited to 500. At present there are 214 members. The original price for one share, the purchase of which is a requisite for admission, was fixed at \$1,000; but this was advanced to \$1,200; and, recently, to \$1,500. Each share entitles its owner to a deed for a cottage site of five acres on any of the many lakes owned by the club, and to one five-hundredth interest in the entire property. The membership cannot be assessed, and is free from annual dues.

The club derives a large income annually from the sale of the spruce and pine on its lands, the cutting being restricted to the

larger trees, and to these two species only. As the scattering trees thus taken constitute only about eight per cent of the entire timber, the forest remains unchanged in its general appearance and uninjured in all its functions. In felling timber, the young trees have been carefully protected, and there have been no fires.

The lands occupy a plateau which, although not in the mountain region, is much higher than the average level of the Adirondack forests. The tract embraces over twenty-five well-known lakes and ponds, including Jock's (or Honnedaga) Lake, Little Moose, Canachagala, Panther, Little Woodhull, the West Canadas, Bisby Lakes, and others. Lake Honnedaga has an altitude of 2,200 feet, and is the highest lake in the Adirondacks which is patronized as a summer resort.

The club has a large, elegant house on Little Moose Lake, near the Fulton Chain; also a "Forest Lodge" on Jock's or Honnedaga Lake, and the "Bisby Lodge" on Bisby Lake. There are also several cottages on these lakes belonging to members. An annual record of the game and fish killed or taken by members, guests, or guides, is kept at each house, showing the date, name of the member, guest, or guide, number and weight of each species of game killed or fish taken on that day, together with the place, approximately, where such game was killed or fish taken. The lands owned by the club abound with deer and other game, while its waters teem with fish. The preserve may not excel all other localities in this respect, but will certainly compare favorably with any, especially in brook trout. The rules prohibit the killing of deer by "jacking" or "floating" at night, also the killing of does and fawns.

The Bisby Club, which for many years has had its headquarters and club house on the Bisby Lakes, adjoining the lands of the Adirondack League Club, has been consolidated recently with the latter.

An annual report, neatly bound and printed, is issued each year, the last one containing an interesting article on the flora of Honnedaga Lake, by Mrs. Hugh M. Smith, of Brooklyn, one of the members of the club.

A notable feature of this club is the communal interest on which it is based. To some it may suggest the Brook Farm



S. R. Stoddard, Photo.

ON THE TRAIL AT LAKE COLDEN.
An Early Snow-fall.

experiment; but unlike that bit of history, its plan and management indicate a permanent success, socially and financially.

Adirondack Club.

This club was one of the first associations of its kind organized in the Adirondack region, it having been incorporated in 1877, under its present title, "The Adirondack Club." The estate controlled by this club is an undivided one, owned by the Adirondack Iron and Steel Company, or their heirs, the company having abandoned its mining and manufacturing operations forty-eight years ago. These lands, which are situated in the northern part of Essex County, include Townships 45, 46, and 47, of the Totten and Crossfield Purchase, and the gores adjoining 45 and 47 on the northwest; also, the tract known as the Hyslop Patent, in Township 27, T. & C. P. These tracts contain, in the aggregate, 96,000 acres.

The following advertisement, which is kept standing in the county newspaper, is published in compliance with the law regulating private preserves and defining the owner's rights:

NOTICE

Is hereby given that Townships 45, 46, and 47, and the two gores of land situated north and east of said Township No. 47, including the entire territory about Lake Colden and also the Hyslop patent in Township 27, all situated in Totten and Crossfield's purchase, in the county of Essex, the property of the

ADIRONDACK IRON AND STEEL CO.,

and also that portion of Township No. 27, Great Tract No. 1, Macomb's Purchase, situated in Franklin County and belonging to the Adirondack Railway Company, have been leased by the Adirondack Club for the purpose of a private territory for propagating and protecting fish, birds, and game, and will be used for that purpose, and all persons are hereby forbidden to trespass thereon for the purpose of hunting, shooting, or fishing.

Dated, January 1, 1891.

JAMES WEEKS,
President.

Adirondack Club, Incorporated.

The officers of the club are: President, James Weeks, 18 Wall street, New York; vice-president, Samuel Spencer, 23 Wall street, New York; secretary, Charles W. West, 32 Nassau street, New York; treasurer, William E. Parsons, Jersey City, N. J., and an executive committee of nine members, including the officers named. There are twenty-eight members in the club, all of whom, with the exception of three, are residents of New York city. The total membership is limited to seventy-five. The initiation fee is \$150. The club pays the Adirondack Iron and Steel Company a nominal sum, yearly, as rent — one dollar per year —, but assumes the taxes on the entire property, which amount to about \$4,000, annually.

This preserve is located in the mountain region, and in the heart of the Wilderness. Its lands include the largest portion of the great mountains, Marcy, Colden, and McIntyre. Santanoni, Henderson, Redfield, Allen, and Adams, with their towering summits, lie, also, wholly within the preserve. The Hudson River has its source here, and the Opalescent River, with its beautiful scenery, flows diagonally across the entire tract. Within its limits are situated Lakes Sanford, Henderson, Colden, Avalanche, and Harkness, whose forest-clad slopes rise grandly until they pass the timber line. One of the famous Preston Ponds is on this tract, together with many smaller bodies of water. With its great area of land, covered with mountain forests, and interspersed with lakes, ponds, and brooks, the preserve affords opportunities for fishing and hunting that are unsurpassed.

The club has been very strict in its rules as to fishing and hunting. Deer are now exceedingly plentiful. Prior to 1881, it had established a fish hatchery at the Upper Club House, and kept it in extensive operation for a number of years; but the club was obliged to suspend operations in the hatchery when the lumbering commenced, for the running of the logs out of Lake Henderson disturbed the water to such an extent that the young fry were killed as fast as hatched. There is an abundance of trout in Lake Henderson, Preston Ponds, Lakes Harkness and Andrew; and black bass in Lake Sanford, and Perch Pond.

The president of the club, Mr. James Weeks, writes as follows: "The writer has been familiar with this section of the woods since 1852, and would say that game and fish are now more abundant than they were at that date. The strict enforcement of the game laws has, of course, tended to this result. As a matter of course we are exceedingly careful with regard to fires. So much danger exists by reason of careless leaving of fires by camping parties, that were more lands taken up by properly organized clubs, the danger to the forests from this source would be much lessened."

The club contribute liberally to the propagation of fish and game, and a few years ago purchased a small herd of moose which were placed on the preserve. The experiment, however, was a failure, as the entire herd died soon after it was brought there. In 1881 Preston Pond was restocked with speckled trout brought from the Rangely Lakes in Maine. These trout have attained an extraordinary size, the recorded weights of several that have been caught exceeding anything of the kind in the Adirondacks.

The entire preserve is covered with an unbroken forest. About twenty-five years ago part of the land around Lake Sanford was burned over, and some of the land had been cut over to make charcoal for smelting iron. But these burned and denuded areas have reforested themselves naturally with a fine second growth which, to the inexperienced eye, conceals all trace of former denudation; while the expert can trace these areas only by noting the difference in species of the timber which covers them. The northern part of the tract has never been touched by fire, and around Lake Colden and the Preston Ponds there is little in its appearance to indicate that any lumbering has ever been done there. On the Marcy slopes, however, the more recent operations of the axemen are plainly noticeable.

The entire tract has been lumbered over by Messrs. Finch, Pruyn & Co., of Glens Falls, under a contract made with the trustee of the property. This firm commenced operations on the land in the fall of 1881, but are now practically through. They cut no hardwood whatever, nor any tamarack, cedar or

balsam. They took only the large spruce and pine. The forest has suffered but little in its general appearance, and remains unimpaired as a protection to that part of the Hudson watershed.

The club has its headquarters in a large, commodious building, which was once used as a hotel or boarding-house in the now "deserted village" at the Upper Iron Works, but which has been rebuilt to suit present requirements. Some of the other houses have also been rebuilt or refitted for the use of the members and guides. The club has built some log "camps" in neat, rustic style at Lake Colden and the Upper Preston Pond. These buildings are comfortably furnished, and offer attractive resorts for the hunter, fisherman, and lover of wild mountain scenery.

The trails leading through the Indian Pass and Avalanche Pass from the Adirondack Lodge, bring tourists frequently to the club house at the Upper Works, where they receive good hotel accommodations, for a limited time; or longer, if the rooms are not needed for the use of the club. The old deserted village, the iron dam, and the abandoned furnaces now overgrown with grass and bushes, have always attracted tourists to the locality.

The members have a club house, also, at the "Lower Works" on the Hudson River, ten miles south of the one at the "Upper Works." This club house is on the highway leading from Newcomb to Schroon River, and is marked on the maps as Tahawus P. O.

The club-house and surrounding property at the Upper House is in charge of Myron L. Buttles, the superintendent. His address is Tahawus, Essex county, N. Y.

Adirondack Mountain Reserve.

In the printed notices posted on its lands this association states that "it desires to preserve the Ausable Lakes, rivers and adjacent forests in their natural beauty, and to prevent them from being injured; to restock the waters with fish and to protect the game. Places of interest are to be rendered more accessible by roads



THE GOTHICS.
From the Upper Ausable.

S. R. Stoddard, Photo.

and trails." The notices state further that, although private property, the preserve is open to visitors willing to observe its regulations.

This association owns 28,626 acres, situated in the towns of Keene and North Hudson, Essex County. This tract includes Township 48, Totten and Crossfield's Purchase, containing 27,000 acres; the south part ($544\frac{1}{2}$ acres), of Lot 68, Township 12, O. M. T., Richards' Survey; and Lots 33, 34, 36, 79, and 80, Roaring Brook Tract, 1,081 acres; a total of $28,625\frac{1}{2}$ acres.

Its officers are: President, William G. Neilson, 220 South Fourth street, Philadelphia, Pa.; secretary, S. Sidney Smith, 59 Wall street, New York; treasurer, Edward I. H. Howell, 220 South Fourth street, Philadelphia, Pa.

There are fifty-five members, all residents of the States of New York, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts, and mainly of the cities of New York, Philadelphia, and Boston. The association was incorporated in 1887, under the laws of the State of New York.

This tract embraces the boldest and finest scenery in the Adirondacks being a magnificent combination of mountain and lake which in some places is impressively grand. The two Ausable Lakes are situated in the 48th Township; the Ausable River, East Branch, flows from the Lower Lake through the Reserve for about three and three-quarter miles. Many high mountain peaks, including Noon Mark, The Gothics, and Haystack, are within the boundaries of the Preserve, while the towering summits of Mts. Marcy and Dix are near its lines, just outside the 48th Township. A fine road, built and graveled at great expense, leads from St. Hubert's to the Lower Lake, a distance of four miles, affording a delightful, shady drive through the forest, with an occasional glimpse of the foaming cascades of the Ausable. Before the association took charge of this property, this road was well-nigh impassible. Toll is now charged on it for carriages, but no more than is necessary to keep it in repair, the receipts from tolls being used to maintain and improve the road. Eight summer cottages have

been built on Township 48, on a cleared spot near the rustic structure or gateway, at the entrance to the preserve. These cottages are occupied by members and their friends during the summer season.

The property is in charge of W. S. Brown, Superintendent, and J. W. Otis, Game Warden. There are sixteen guides, all members of the Keene Valley Guides' Association, who have boats on both lakes, and camps on the Upper Lake, and who have the exclusive right to take parties to the Upper Lake for camping or boating. No person is allowed to camp upon the property of the Company unless accompanied by an authorized guide, and a sum is charged each person for every night spent in camp.

The public are not debarred from this preserve, but may camp and fish, subject to certain regulations and to the payment of certain charges which are applicable to members as well as others. No hunting has been allowed on the property since it was purchased in 1887, permission being denied to the members as well as to the public. Between July fifth and August fifteenth, permits for fishing are issued to members and others, on application to the superintendent. For these permits members are charged one dollar per day, and persons, not members, one dollar and fifty cents per day. A permit allows the holder the use of only one rod. The person holding the permit may exercise the privilege personally or allow a companion, or guide, accompanying him, to use the rod when not fishing himself. Fishing with hand-lines is prohibited, and all trolling is to be done with a rod. The number of fish which may be taken by one rod on any one day shall not exceed ten in the Upper and Lower Lakes, or thirty in any other locality, except in Marcy Brook, where the members have preference over other applicants. Permits must be returned to the superintendent with an indorsement showing the number of fish caught, species, weight, etc.

No timber is allowed to be cut on the preserve except for fuel or for the removal of dead and diseased trees. On 2,050 acres in the northeast corner of Township 48, the merchantable spruce is being cut under a contract made at the time the company purchased the land, in order to acquire the title to all this

township. The timber on Township 48 is mainly first-growth maple and beech, with considerable spruce and hemlock intermixed. Some of the lots in the Roaring Brook Tract have been "lumbered" over, and the soft trees removed.

It should be noted that the management of this preserve accords to the public the same privileges, substantially, as are granted to its members. The regulations may seem unnecessarily strict; but they were adopted because they were deemed essential to the preservation of its forest and the existence of its game. There are no restrictions on the public but what apply as well to the members upon whom the cost and maintenance of the preserve devolves.

Adirondack Preserve Association.

This property is located in Essex County, N. Y., and includes Lots 10, 11, and 12, and part of Lots 8 and 9, in Township 16, Totten and Crossfield's Purchase. In shape it is a parallelogram, with an area of 4,583 acres, all of which is owned by the association in fee simple.

The names and addresses of the officers are: President, J. M. Lawson, 15 East Sixty-seventh street, New York; vice-president, Edwin W. Adams, 114 Wall street, New York; secretary and treasurer, James Yalden, 11 Pine street, New York.

There is a board of trustees, composed of the officers and the following gentlemen: Charles B. Brush, Hoboken, N. J.; F. W. Kitching, 894 Reade street, New York; E. Terry, Century Club, New York; Thos. B. Keer, 120 Broadway, New York.

There are fifty-eight members, mostly from New York and Pittsburgh. The cities of Chicago, Cleveland, Cincinnati, New York, Binghamton, Little Falls, and Newburyport, Mass., are also represented in the club, together with residents of Maine and Delaware.

The land is for the greater part heavily timbered with pine, spruce, and hardwood, the latter predominating largely, as is the case throughout the entire Adirondack Forest. Only a limited quantity of timber has been cut on the preserve, and, in recent

years, only such as was required for building purposes on the property. There is a large clearing around the club-house, which was made several years ago for farming, but which is utilized now by the club for its table supply.

The location is high, healthful, and well watered, and a natural resort for deer and other game. There are seven lakes on the property: "Mink," "Thumb," "Beaver No. 1," "Beaver No. 2," "Beaver No. 3," "Loon," and "Frank," which abound with trout, black bass, and pickerel. Mink lake, the largest of the seven, is a beautiful sheet of water interspersed with several islands. There is some good mountain scenery, and from Prospect Rock, a short walk from the club-house, there is a grand view, covering an area of sixty square miles, in which over 100 mountain peaks, large and small, are visible. The entire club-house has been well furnished, and special efforts have been made for providing the members with comforts and accommodations not usually found in the mountains. The buildings comprise a three-story club house, suitably furnished, and several cottages for the special accommodation of separate members and their families, also a dining-hall, laundry, kitchen, woodsheds, ice-house, and barns.

The club has a large retinue of servants and guides, who, with the superintendent, live on the place. The superintendent is Mr. Robert Bibby; his post-office address is Minerva, Essex Co., N. Y.

While the general purposes of this association are rest and healthful recreation, its members evince a desire to render every assistance in their power in the great work of forest preservation, and especial pains have been taken to that end. They also co-operate heartily in the propagation of fish and game, their rules and restrictions being designed to further this desirable object.

Adirondack Forestry Association.

This association owns 3,500 acres in Hamilton County, in Township 22, Totten and Crossfield Purchase, embracing Lots 31 to 57, inclusive, in the south half of the township. The land

is near Long Lake, part of the property abutting its shore. Several small lots have been sold off already for camps.

The trustees of the association are: Gen. Hazard Stevens, Boston, Mass.; Oscar B. Ireland, Springfield, Mass.; George E. Terry, Waterbury, Conn.

The present object of the managers is to preserve the timber, and no contracts have been made for cutting any part of it; neither has the tract been posted with trespass notices.

The Nehasane Park Association.

This organization now holds title to the larger portion of the Adirondack lands purchased by Dr. William Seward Webb, of New York. Its lands are located in Township 8, John Brown's Tract, and in Townships 37,* 38, 41, and 43, and triangle north of 38 in the Totten and Crossfield Purchase, all in the northern part of Herkimer and Hamilton Counties. The number of acres owned is about 112,000; no land is leased.

The officers are: President, Henry L. Sprague, 15 Broad street, New York; treasurer, William L. Carden, 51 East Forty-fourth street, New York; secretary, Charles H. Burnett, 51 East Forty-fourth street, New York.

The same persons constitute the board of directors.

The association is capitalized at \$400,000, divided into 4,000 shares of \$100 each; and its membership, at present, is limited to the officers and directors named, and Dr. William Seward Webb. Its objects are, substantially, to preserve and cultivate the forest; protect and propagate its game and fish; and to develop and better generally the Adirondacks as a resort for sportsmen and tourists, as well as to preserve, beautify, and improve its streams, lakes and ponds.

Contracts have been made for the removal of the soft or floatable timber (down to the proper diameter limit) on about 30,000 acres of these lands, principally in Township 8; but no timber in Township 8 has been sold around Twitchell Lake, or

* Not including the land in Township 37, north of the railroad.

on the shores of the Fulton Chain. No effort to utilize the hard woods on these tracts has been made.

About 10,000 acres, or more than fifteen square miles, of this property, located in Township 37, is surrounded by a wire fence ten feet high, within which the native deer and imported elk and moose, as well as smaller game and fish, are secure from molestation by the general public, this particular tract, together with about 40,000 acres of adjoining land, being reserved for the exclusive use of Dr. Webb and his personal friends or guests. This portion of the preserve is known as the "Lake Lila Department."

That portion of Township 8 bordering on Second, Third, and Fourth Lakes of the Fulton Chain has been allotted in camp-sites of an average width of 200 feet, with varying depths (about six acres each), which have been placed on the market for sale. Many of these beautiful camp-sites have been purchased by people desirous of establishing a summer home in the woods, who were influenced, doubtless by their accessibility.

This territory, together with Township No. 42 (T. & C. P.), and the east one-third of Township No. 5 (John Brown's Tract), which is the property of Dr. Webb personally, may all be sold for sporting or lumbering purposes. In addition to these tracts, Dr. Webb has title to some 20,000 acres of Adirondack forest, a part of which at least he would be willing to sell to the State at a fair price, if the Legislature ever make any appropriation for such purposes. He has also some small holdings in Franklin County, outside the lines of the Adirondack Park.

The officials who transact the business of and care for the property, are: William Seward Webb, proprietor, 51 East Forty-fourth street, New York; Edward M. Burns, manager forest lands, Herkimer, N. Y.; Fitz Greene Halleck, superintendent Lake Lila Department, Nehasane, N. Y.; Byron Ames, assistant superintendent, Nehasane, N. Y.; George Fazette, second assistant superintendent, Little Rapids, N. Y.

In addition to these officials a number of gamekeepers are employed. The superintendents hold special appointments from

the State as firewardens and game protectors; and the two assistant superintendents are deputy sheriffs.

The following copy of the certificate of incorporation filed in the office of the Secretary of State, at Albany, June 11, 1894, is inserted here to show one of the many items of procedure necessary in establishing a private preserve of this kind.

Certificate of Incorporation.

STATE OF NEW YORK.

City and County of New York.

We, the undersigned, desiring to form a corporation pursuant to the provisions of the Business Corporations Law, all being of full age, and two-thirds being citizens of the United States, and a majority residents of the State of New York, do hereby certify.

First. The name of the proposed corporation is to be the Neha-sa-ne Park Association.

Second. The objects and nature of the business for which it is to be formed are, to acquire by purchase wild land and other property situated in the Adirondack Wilderness, and in the Counties of Herkimer, Hamilton, St. Lawrence, and Franklin, New York State, and to sell such land and the timber thereon; to provide measures and means to preserve the forests upon said land, and to protect all wild animals and fish within the boundaries of land so acquired; and the location of the business of the company is to be in the counties above mentioned.

Third. The amount and description of the capital stock are to be as follows: Four hundred thousand dollars, of common stock.

Fourth. The number of shares of which the capital stock consists is 4,000 shares, at \$100, par value.

Fifth. The location of the principal business office is to be in the village of Poland, Town of Russia, Herkimer County, New York.

Sixth. Its duration is to be fifty years.

Seventh. The number of its directors is to be three, each of whom is a stockholder, and is to hold at least five shares of stock.

Eighth. The name and post-office addresses of the directors for the first year are as follows, viz.: William L. Carden, No. 51 East Forty-fourth street, New York; Henry L. Sprague, No. 15 Broad street, New York; Charles H. Burnett, No. 51 East Forty-fourth street, New York.

Ninth. The post-office addresses of the subscribers and the number of shares of stock which each agree to take in the corporation are as follows: William L. Carden, 51 East Forty-fourth street, New York, 5 shares; Henry L. Sprague, 15 Broad street, New York, 3,990 shares; Charles H. Burnett, 51 East Forty-fourth street, New York, 5 shares.

In witness whereof, we have made, signed, and acknowledged this certificate, this eleventh day of June, 1894.

(Signed.) CHARLES H. BURNETT.
HENRY L. SPRAGUE.
WILLIAM L. CARDEN.

As previously stated, the association purchased its lands from Dr. William Seward Webb. The consideration mentioned in the deed was \$683,500, and the lands conveyed were described as containing, in the aggregate, 101,293 acres. The price may seem somewhat above the usual rate per acre for Adirondack lands. But this territory, in addition to its value as a hunting ground and summer resort, is heavily timbered with merchantable species, the logs now being accessible by either rail or water. On Township 8, Brown's Tract (owned by Dr. Webb), the spruce was recently sold for six dollars per acre, leaving the owner in possession of the land, still covered with hardwood forest, together with the valuable cottage or hotel sites along the Fulton Chain and Big Moose Lakes. As the adjoining townships are equally well or better timbered, this latter transaction will give some idea of the value of the Nehasane lands.

The Nehasane Park, though lacking in mountain scenery, is situated in the lake region, and includes some beautiful bodies of water, many of which are unsurpassed for their natural supply of speckled trout. Lakes Lila and Nehasane (formerly Smith's and Albany Lakes), are the largest in the park. Big Moose Lake, on Township 8, does not seem to be included in the preserve of

The Nehasane Association, although owned by Dr. Webb. Dr. Webb has his own "Forest Lodge" at Lake Lila, a new and elegant structure, having been erected for that purpose on the site of the little, old hotel, which for so many years had extended its good cheer to the tired sportsmen and tourists of the Beaver River region.

Though a private preserve, permits are freely granted to reputable sportsmen to hunt and fish upon all the property except on the lands reserved for the owner's use. These reserved lands, from which all are excluded, are described, on the back of the printed permits, as including "about 50,000 acres, taking in Lake Lila (formerly Smith's Lake), Nehasane Lake (formerly Albany Lake), Nigger, Oven, Big Rock, Crooked, Clear, Gull, Grassy, Fall, and Witchopple Lakes, Charley Pond, and the Beaver River down to the Totten and Crossfield line, and about a mile and a half on each side of the stream."

The permits are granted "on condition that the State laws are observed regarding game, fish, and fires, and that no dogs are brought upon the property." Hounding and jacking are not permitted under any circumstances. Gamekeepers are stationed throughout the preserve during the summer season, for the purpose of inspecting permits and seeing that the State laws are observed. No person is allowed on the property without a permit, and any violation of the game laws, or of the terms of the permit, is considered sufficient cause for the ejection of the offender. Another condition, printed conspicuously on the permit, is "that no fish be taken or shipped off the property."

The Adirondack division of the New York Central railroad runs across the entire park; but the stations at Little Rapids and Nehasane are private ones, to which no tickets are sold, baggage checked, or trains allowed to stop, these stations being for the accommodation of persons connected with the park. Most of the sportsmen visiting the preserve leave the train at Beaver River Station, or at Big Moose. Application for permits should be made to William Seward Webb, 51 East Forty-fourth street, New York, or to Edward M. Burns, manager, Herkimer, N. Y.

De Camp Preserve.

This property embraces a forest of 29,500 acres, situated in John Brown's Tract, Herkimer County. It is owned by Mrs. Julia L. De Camp, of New York, who has a summer residence on the property, on First Lake, Fulton Chain.

To facilitate the management and disposal of the property, it has been divided by the owner into four different tracts:

First.—Wilderness Park, containing about 11,000 acres, situated in the north part of Township One, "Industry," and including that portion lying north of the Adirondack and St. Lawrence railroad. Located on this tract are the Helgate Lakes, Copper, Middlesettlement, Pine, and other smaller lakes.

Second.—South Park, containing about 2,000 acres, and including that portion of the north part of Township 1 lying south of the railroad. The north branch of the Moose River flows through this tract.

Third.—North Park, containing about 6,500 acres, situated in Township 7, "Economy," John Brown's Tract, and embracing most of the township lying to the north and west of the Adirondack and St. Lawrence railroad. Within this tract are Little Safford, Gibbs, Clear Pond, Lotus Lake, and some other small bodies of water.

Fourth.—East Park, containing about 10,000 acres in the same township, but lying south and east of the railroad. This latter tract includes the First Lake of the famous Fulton Chain, and part of the Second Lake; also, Nick's Lake, and several small ponds or sheets of water that have as yet received no name.

In a printed notice posted by the owner, these lands are designated as private parks, held for the purpose of forest protection; and for the propagation and protection of fish, birds and game. All persons are "warned and forbidden," in this notice, under penalty of the law, from trespassing on any portion of the preserve by "hunting, shooting, or fishing." This notice, which is dated December 5, 1892, was duly published, at the time, in "The Herkimer Citizen," and, in 1893, was printed on cloth placards, which were nailed upon trees and boards every forty

rods along the boundary line of these parks, in accordance with the requirements and provisions of the law governing private preserves.*

The general features of this tract include a variety of attractions, numerous lakes of different sizes and shapes, some accessible by the most easy routes by rail and boat, and others secluded in the recesses of the wilderness, beautiful rivers and streams winding for miles through romantic scenery, while mountains and hills near by, or in the dim distance, add beauty and sublimity to the entire region.

It is easily reached by the Adirondack division of the New York Central railroad, which runs through it for a distance of eleven miles, and has stations within a short distance of the greater portion. On the Fulton Chain there are several small steamers specially licensed by the owner of this tract to run through the waters of First and Second Lakes.

The greater part of the land is well timbered with an almost primeval forest containing various species of hard and soft timber. It is a favorite resort for deer which find there the retirement necessary to their safety, and its waters are well stocked with both salmon and speckled trout.

Beaver River Club.

This association was incorporated February 10, 1893. Its preserve is situated in the northern part of Herkimer County, on the Beaver River, from which it takes its name. The club owns 200 acres in fee, and leases 6,000 acres from Mrs. M. L. Fisher. These lands are in John Brown's Tract, in Township 5, "Frugality."

The club house is reached by wagon, via Lowville, and Number Four (Fenton's); and from the latter place by the Old Military Road, eastward through an unbroken wilderness for a distance of twelve miles. It is now more easily and conveniently reached

* For this law see Vol. II of this report.

by the Adirondack Division of the New York Central railroad, leaving the train at Beaver River Station, walking or riding one mile to the river, and thence by steamer or row-boat down the river for five miles to Stillwater, where the club house and mountain villa of the members are situated.

The Club embraces in its possessions what is familiarly known as the "Joe Dunbar" property; also the middle third of Township 5, John Brown's Tract, and a portion of the west third of the township. This territory includes Evergreen Lake, Raven, Bear, Long, and Dog Ponds. The Beaver River and Twitchell Creek flow through the preserve for quite a distance.

The membership of the club is, at present, limited to thirty-five members, to each of whom is granted in fee a lot with a water front. Cottages have been and are being erected on these lots by members who live in them and take their meals at the club house. The design of the club is to furnish summer homes for the members and their families.

Extensive improvements and additions are constantly being made, and the members now have a commodious club house, cottages, halls, barns, and the necessary outbuildings. It is regarded as one of the most healthful and delightful resorts in the great wilderness, while its advantages for boating, fishing and hunting have become historic. It is doubtful whether there can be found a preserve which has a greater abundance of deer and trout. The club is vigilant in protecting the game and enforcing the game laws.

The officers are: President, William P. Goodell, Syracuse, N. Y.; vice-president, William H. Morrison, Lowville, N. Y.; secretary and treasurer, E. R. Comstock, Utica, N. Y.

The membership is composed of gentlemen, not only from the above named cities, but also from Brooklyn, New York, Jersey City, and other places in the State. The club has already attained a high degree of prosperity.

The club house and property is under the management of the well known guide, Monroe H. Bullock.





SOUTH INLET, RAQUETTE LAKE.

S. R. Stoddard, Photo.

Summer Park.

This preserve is situated in the central part of Hamilton County, and is the sole property of Mr. William West Durant, of New York. It includes the whole of Township No. 6, Totten and Crossfield Purchase; 25,000 acres of Township No. 34; 3,000 acres of Township No. 19; and 1,700 acres of Township No. 5; in all 56,000 acres of contiguous lands, or one solid tract.*

It includes the famous Blue Mountain Lake, which lies wholly within Township 34; also, Eagle, Utowana, Sumner, Shedd, and Mohegan Lakes, together with a large number of smaller ponds and streams. The summit of Blue Mountain is situated within the boundaries of this park, and a considerable part of the south shore of Raquette Lake is included in the lines of Township 6. The owner of this property has an elegant and costly residence at "Camp Pine Knot," on Raquette Lake, and another recently built on Mohegan Lake. These structures are built of logs in rustic style, and contain every luxury and convenience that wealth and taste can supply. The steamboat line whose little vessels ply on the water of Blue Mountain, Eagle, and Utowana Lakes run through this property; but aside from this route the preserve is closed to the public.

Careful estimates and examinations of the timber on Township No. 34 show that there are 300,000 markets of spruce and pine yet remaining on this township, although part of it was lumbered once. The balance of 34 is thickly covered with hardwood timber, except about 200 acres. There are by actual measurement about 1,700 acres of water surface on this township. On the 3,000 acres owned in Township 19, the spruce has been partially removed, about 15,000 markets remaining. The 28,000 acres in Townships 6 and 5 contain, according to a careful estimate and measurement, 700,000 markets of spruce and pine, mostly spruce; the balance of the forest consists of hard woods (including some white ash), hemlock, and cedar. No timber contracts have been let, and no timber cutting is permitted.

* In addition to Summer Park, Mr. Durant owns 45,000 acres, all forest, which are not included in any preserve. These lands are not posted, and are open to the public.

The scenery on this preserve is mountainous and picturesque. There is an abundance of brook trout, lake trout, and black bass. There are twenty miles of brook trout fishing. Deer abound in great number, as many as thirty having been seen at one time the past summer on one small lake.

The present object in maintaining this woodland park is to preserve the fish and game and save the valuable timber. There are several camps and keepers' lodges on the preserve. One-half of the whole is strictly guarded by the head gamekeeper, John Callahan, and his six assistants, while the whole park is under a general supervision to prevent fires and violations of the game laws. No part of the preserve has been denuded by fire.

Brandreth Preserve.

This preserve embraces all the lands in Township 39, Totten and Crossfield's Purchase, Town of Long Lake, Hamilton County, and contains 26,000 acres.

This township was purchased by the late Benjamin Brandreth about 1848, and has been owned by him and his heirs without interruption since that time. The present owners are Franklin Brandreth, Ralph Brandreth, and E. A. McAlpine, all of Sing Sing, N. Y., who own it as tenants in common. The ownership covers the entire township as surveyed, land and water. There has never been any timber cutting, or any use of the property except the occasional visits of the owners and their guests for pleasure or health.

The only structures upon the township are three cottages, one of which belongs to each of the owners; and a house occupied by Reuben Cary, the gamekeeper, who is employed by the year. He lives on the premises and cares for them in the absence of the owners.

With this exception the property remains in its natural condition. It is a virgin forest, unscarred as yet by axe or fire. So far as practicable, it is closed to the public. No hunting or fishing, except by the owners and their guests, is permitted on the premises.

Though there are no mountains on this township, it has an elevation of over 1,800 feet, and contains the headwaters of the Raquette, Beaver, and Moose Rivers. Brandreth Lake, about three miles long, is on this township, and discharges its waters into the Raquette River; West, Little Rock, and Shingle-Shanty Ponds run to the Beaver River; while South Pond flows into the Moose River.

Morehouse Lake Club.

This club was organized under the general law of the State, on the 6th day of September, 1889, and its constitution and by-laws were formally adopted on the fourth of October following. Its object, as stated in its certificate of organization, filed in the office of the Secretary of State, is "social and recreative purposes;" also, hunting, fishing, and lawful sporting purposes.

The club acquired title, by purchase, to 1,662 acres of land, situated in what is known as "The Morehouse Eight Thousand Acre Tract," Town of Arietta, all in Hamilton County.

The particular parcels acquired are: North one-half Lot No. 8, Lots 9, 10; west one-half Lot 11, Lots 22, 23, 24, 25; south one-half Lot 26, and east one-half Lot 28, in the Morehouse Tract; and sixty-two acres of Lot 279, Ox Bow Tract.

Within the area of these lands are Morehouse, Barto, Alder, Brook, and Mud Lakes.

The club is limited to a membership of fifty, and its membership is full. Most of the members reside in Herkimer County, but there are representatives from Utica, Albany, New York, and Philadelphia. The present officers are: President, W. W. Mosher, Middleville, N. Y.; vice-presidents, W. A. Ingham, Newport, N. Y.; Joseph P. Ogden, Ilion, N. Y.; George Graves, ———; secretary, S. W. Hamlin, Middleville, N. Y.; treasurer, H. E. Jackson, Middleville, N. Y., and a board of trustees of seven members; also an executive committee of five.

The tract is mountainous, and heavily wooded. There is a moderate amount of soft wood timber on the preserve, which was retained by the parties from whom the land was purchased,

with the privilege of removing the same within ten years. These parties, during the past year, have been engaged in cutting this timber, taking it out by way of Piseco Lake, and thence down the Sacandaga River to Fort Edward, on the Hudson. The preserve is located on the watershed between the Sacandaga and the East Canada Creek, Morehouse Lake being the fountain head of the latter.

The association maintains no club house, but members have the right to erect cottages on the land, in such places as may be approved by the trustees, and to retain the same as their own individual property. Fifteen cottages have already been built under this arrangement on the shore of Morehouse Lake, and the erection of others is contemplated. A keeper is employed on the preserve the whole year, whose duty it is to look after the property of the club, to keep the trails open, to prevent the intrusion of poachers, to guard against forest fires, and to see that the law is in no way violated. Each member is restricted as to the amount of fish which may be taken away from the preserve during any one year. Speckled trout are the only fish that inhabit the waters of the preserve. Nothing has been done in the way of stocking the lakes; for, thus far, the fish have been abundant, and there are no indications that the supply is diminishing.

The constitution and by-laws, which are neatly printed in pamphlet form, contain some wise provisions. No member or guest may take away, for his own use, more than ten pounds of fish in any one year. No timber can be cut within ten rods of the lake. Where timber is cut for firewood or building purposes, the brush must be carefully piled at the expense of the party for whom the trees are cut, and this, together with useless tops, is to be burned at a safe and proper time. Members or guests are also prohibited from bringing any dogs on the premises, except during the hounding season.

Wilmurt Club.

This club was organized as a sporting club for the enjoyment of the fishing and hunting privileges afforded by the Adirondack

Wilderness. The association own, in fee, Lots 40, 44, 45, 46, 52, 53, 54, 55, 61, and the westerly quarter of 60, in Arthurboro Patent, Hamilton County, a tract situated about six miles north of the post-office of Morehouseville, and comprising 1,655 acres. This embraces all of Wilmurt Lake, from which the club derives its name, and the greater portion of Big Rock Lake. A small portion of the latter is located on Lots 51, and 62, which belong to the State.

The officers are: President, Hon. Titus Sheard, Little Falls, N. Y.; vice-president, J. J. Albright, Buffalo, N. Y.; secretary, C. H. Smyth, Clinton, N. Y.; treasurer, F. A. Ethridge, Rome, N. Y.

The other members are: A. L. Barber, New York city; W. E. Barber, Washington, D. C.; D. H. Burrell, Little Falls, N. Y.; D. C.; Gen. Geo. S. Field, Buffalo, N. Y.; Edmund Hayes, Buffalo, N. Y.; C. S. Maurice, Athens, Pa.; Hon. Warner Miller, Herkimer, N. Y.; R. H. Plumb, Buffalo, N. Y.; R. D. Wilson, Estate.

The number of members is limited to sixteen. There are two shares still in the treasury. The tract is, excepting the water and about ten acres of cleared land around the club house, all well wooded. No timber is allowed to be cut on the premises of the club.

Wilmurt Lake is well stocked with brook trout; and Big Rock Lake is stocked with lake trout and land-locked salmon, or Ouananiche, the latter having been introduced at considerable expense by the present owners of this property. They have also expended large sums in stocking Wilmurt Lake with speckled trout. Deer are abundant in this section.

The object and aim of the club is to work in full harmony with the State in preserving this territory, and protecting the State property adjoining, as far as possible, in accordance with the game and forest laws of the State of New York. These laws have been adopted as part of the rules and regulations of the club.

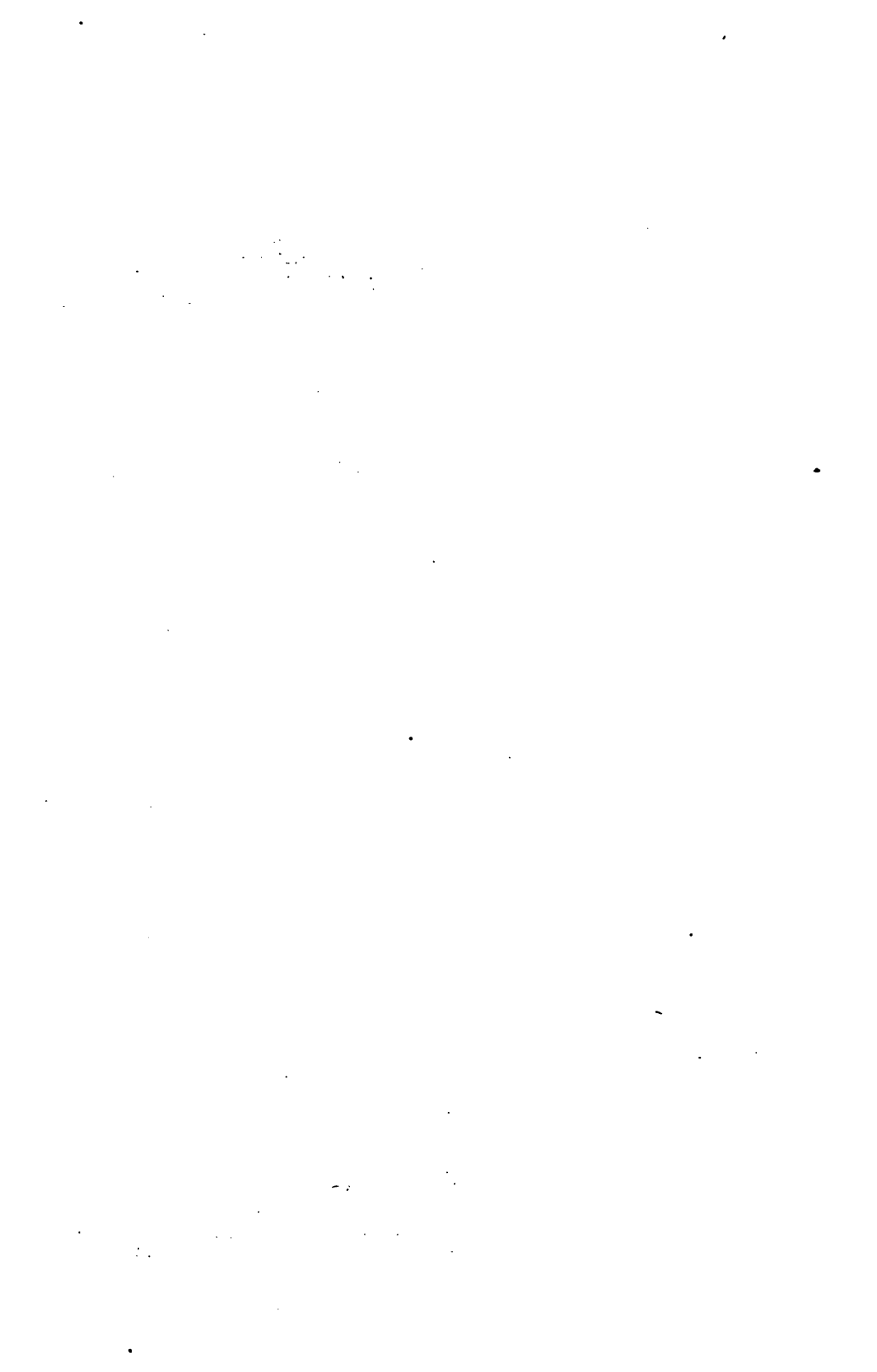
Charles Kronmiller is employed as gamekeeper during the entire year. He has instructions to co-operate with the fire-

wardens and foresters to the fullest extent, it being the purpose of the club to work in harmony with the State in preserving its forests from destruction.

Santanoni Park.

This beautiful piece of forest property is owned by Mr. Robert C. Pruyn, of Albany, N. Y.; who purchased it for a summer residence, and for the rare hunting and fishing which it affords. It is situated in the southeasterly part of Township 28, Totten and Crossfield's Purchase, and in the town of Newcomb, Essex County. It includes also, some adjoining lots in Township 27, along the outlet of Newcomb Lake, the entire preserve embracing 10,135 acres. Within its area are Newcomb Lake and Moose Pond, the former known as one of the most beautiful lakes in the Adirondacks. It is a large body of water, embellished with well forested islands, and surrounded by picturesque mountain scenery. The park takes its name from Santanoni Mountain, which rises grandly in the immediate vicinity.

The residence on this preserve is the largest and finest in the entire forest. It consists of five low cottages, with a combined frontage of 265 feet, connected by broad piazzas. In the rear is a large, detached kitchen, a Wickes' refrigerating room, and the guides' and servants' quarters. The lodge and stables are half a mile from the residence, or "Camp Santanoni," as it is called. The buildings composing the residence are made of logs, stripped of their bark, and caulked with oakum and deck varnish like a ship's deck. Over 1,500 trees were used in the construction. The other building material was taken almost wholly from the place, the rough stone chimneys being hewn from Adirondack granite, beautiful with its pockets of garnet, tourmaline, and mica. Although built of logs, the group of cottages are well designed, and offer a remarkably fine example of what can be done with rustic work in architecture. There is so much rain in the Adirondacks, and life indoors is so unnatural, that provision against confinement was made by adding 5,000 square feet of piazzas. The architect was Robert H. Robertson, of New York.





S. R. Stoddard, Photo.

BOUQUET RIVER.
Essex County.

The work was done almost entirely by men from the neighboring Adirondack villages.

In the construction every detail was studied with reference to insuring comfort and health. Pains were taken to avoid city effects, and to make the place picturesque rather than elegant. A fine spring furnishes a constant water supply, and enabled the architect to add a complete system of modern plumbing. The "camp" accommodates twenty guests besides the servants and guides. Small clearings, hidden in the woods, furnish a supply of vegetables, and pasturage for cows. The forest which covers the entire preserve and comes to the very doors of the camp, contains the usual kinds of Adirondack game—deer, rabbits, partridges, etc. There are also mink, otter, foxes, and an endless variety of feather and fur. The lakes and streams contain both speckled and lake trout, and land-locked salmon have recently been added.

The camp is thirty-two miles from the railroad station at North Creek. On purchasing the property, Mr. Pruyn built a road, four and one-half miles long, from the camp to the highway at Newcomb. He has made it an object lesson in road building. It proves that the hard-pan found in a part of the Adirondacks is an admirable road material. The road is built entirely of this, the secret being thorough ditching. It is a well graveled drive, smooth as a park road, affording a delightful ride through a grand, old forest, with charming views here and there of the lofty mountains in the Marcy Range.

A gamekeeper and his assistants reside on the preserve during the whole year. Mr. Elbert Parker is the chief gamekeeper; his address is Newcomb, Essex County, N. Y.

Putnam Preserve.

This tract is situated in Essex County, in the towns of Keene and Elizabethtown. It contains 3,540 acres.

The following advertisement, inserted in the Elizabethtown Post by the owner, in compliance with the law regulating the

establishment of private preserves, may be of interest in connection with this subject, as indicating the proper form of notice:

NOTICE

Is hereby given that Lots Nos. 9, and 78, Roaring Brook Tract, and Lots Nos. 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 97, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, and 125, in North River Head Tract, in the towns of Keene and Elizabethtown, Essex County, N. Y., with the ponds, rivers and brooks thereon, property of the undersigned, is devoted and dedicated as a private park or territory for propagating and protecting fish, birds, and game, and will be used for that purpose, and all persons are hereby warned against and forbidden trespassing upon such private territory.

This includes the ponds known as the Twin Ponds and the Twin Brook, the Lilly-Pad Pond, the Stillwater Brook, Cold Brook, and the Boquet River and its branches from the 48th Township to the farm of Patrick Meagher.

H. A. PUTNAM.

Dated, May 2, 1893.

This publication is in accordance with the law* (chapter 623, Laws of 1887, section 27) requiring the owners of a preserve to "publish at least once a week for three months in a paper of general circulation printed in the county within which such lands and waters are situated, a notice substantially describing the same."

Moose Pond Club.

This club owns 656 acres in Township 26, Totten and Crossfield Purchase. It includes Lots 44, 45, the northwest corner of 52, and the northeast corner of 53. The land is in the town of Minerva, Essex County. Within this preserve are Moose, Little Trout, and Bissell Ponds.

The officers of the club are: President, William H. Faxon, Chestertown, N. Y.; vice-president, Hon. L. W. Emerson, Warrensburgh, N. Y.; secretary and treasurer, A. H. Thomas, Warrensburgh, N. Y.

The membership of the club is limited to twenty.

Moose Pond has been noted for years for the large size of the speckled or brook trout which abounds in its waters. On the

* For this and other laws relating to private preserves, see Volume II, Page 47.

third of August, Mr. A. H. Thomas, of Warrensburgh, N. Y., caught twelve speckled trout in this pond which weighed twenty-nine pounds and fourteen ounces. The smallest weighed one pound eight ounces; the largest one weighed four pounds two ounces. Mr. Thomas states that these twelve trout were not selected from a big catch; he caught the twelve, and no more, on that day. He caught them on the afternoon of a bright, clear day, using a piece of sunfish for bait, and fishing with his hook in about twenty-five feet of water.

The members have erected a new, comfortably-furnished clubhouse, twenty-six by thirty-six feet, with a kitchen eighteen by eighteen. The property is in charge of Mr. John Thornton, the gamekeeper.

The Upper Saranac Association.

This corporation was organized under the laws of New York, the title being "The Upper Saranac Association." It owns Township 20, Macomb's Purchase, Great Tract One, containing 26,880 acres; also 150 acres in the adjoining Township — Township 21 — on which are located a sawmill, millpond, and lumber yard belonging to the association. The entire property is situated in Franklin County, and in the town of Harriestown. The entire preserve contains 27,030 acres, which is owned in fee. It does not occupy any leased land. The officers are: President, Dr. Samuel B. Ward, Albany, N. Y.; secretary, W. Q. Riddle, 43 Wall street, New York; treasurer, Fred. H. Gibbens, 26 Exchange place, New York.

The board of trustees consists of these officers and Mr. F. E. Griswold, Albany, N. Y. Mr. D. W. Riddle, Saranac Inn, Franklin county, N. Y., is the manager.

In a letter to the Superintendent of Forests, the president of the association, Dr. Ward, furnishes the following information regarding this preserve:

"The Township is well timbered. Much of it was cut over by Mr. Christopher Norton, some twenty-five years ago, and the trees which have since matured are now cut from year to year at our mill for our own use, and for sale; but no small trees are allowed to be cut for any purpose.

The timber consists of pine, spruce, hemlock, cedar, balsam, tamarack, maple, birch, beech, and cherry, with scattering trees of other species.

"As far as one can judge from a single instance, the history of this Township would seem to show that after a given district has had its mature pine and spruce removed, it takes from twenty to twenty-five years for enough young trees to mature to make it profitable to lumber the same district again.

"Both speckled and lake trout were very plentiful in our waters up to four or five years ago, when pickerel, in some way, gained access to a portion of them, and the trout have notably diminished where the pickerel exist. By means of a dam we have succeeded in protecting most of the back ponds which were not already inaccessible to the pickerel, by reason of the character of their outlets. Lake trout are still abundant in the Upper Saranac Lake; but the speckled trout have diminished in number in the lake itself. Wherever it is deemed advisable our waters are abundantly stocked every year from the State hatchery, which is situated on the inlet of the lake, and about one mile from it; so, the back ponds still afford good sport for the fly-fisherman. On this Township there are forty-six ponds large enough to be named, and from a dozen to twenty smaller ones.

"The question of stocking the Upper Saranac Lake with bass has been discussed since the pickerel got into it, and are driving the trout out. The law, as it now stands, does not admit our doing this without the permission of the Commissioners of Fisheries, which, up to the present time has been withheld. It seems pretty clear that speckled trout and pickerel do not flourish together, and probably the introduction of bass will ultimately be deemed advisable. Some years ago, the Fish Commissioners placed some western white fish in our waters, and several have been taken by still fishing with bait during the present season. Yellow perch have long been abundant in the Stony Creek Ponds and other tributaries of the Raquette River, but have appeared in our waters this year for the first time.

"It is the opinion of guides and habitual visitors here that deer are more plentiful now than ten years ago. The law, as it now stands, is quite adequate for their protection, and, as far as this Township is concerned, is faithfully observed. If thoroughly enforced all through the woods no further restrictions would be necessary. Deer do not appear to fear railroads at all; on the contrary, they are frequently seen from the car windows standing and watching the trains go by. We are convinced that the building of the Adirondack and St. Lawrence line, which runs through our Township, has not frightened away the deer at all, though we feared that it might.

"The pinnated grouse, or partridge, are fairly abundant, more so some years than others, their abundance depending mainly on the severity of the preceding winter.

"Long Pond Mountain is the highest point on our lands. The top is eight hundred and twenty-five feet above the level of Long Pond, which lies just at its southern foot. A good trail leads to the summit, with

suitable resting places provided for ladies, and a good hut and fire-place close to a spring, where lunches may be conveniently served. A superb view of the Adirondack range of mountains and all the surrounding country may be obtained from the top. The view from the piazza of the Saranac Inn, which is only a few feet above the level of the lake, is believed to be unsurpassed by any of its kind at any point in the woods. Follensby, Clear, Little Green, Hoel, Turtle, and many others of the ponds, afford as restful and beautiful scenery as can be found anywhere, of this kind.

"It may not be amiss to point out what you, as a scientific forester, already well know, that lumbering on one's own lands cannot be carried on with profit without due regard to the preservation of the forests. Were one to judge from the articles published from time to time in the daily papers, he would be forced to the conclusion that the lumberman left in his wake nothing but a country absolutely devoid of anything that could be called a tree; and that, in addition, this treeless waste was generally devastated by fire. Now the professional lumberman's prime object is certainly pecuniary profit. Our experience shows that it does not pay to cut down a tree less than ten inches in diameter, three feet above the ground; simply because it does not yield enough lumber after passing through the mill to repay the cost of felling, hauling, and sawing it.

"This statement does not apply to the gatherer of pulpwood or the manufacturer of charcoal. These two classes of men, if they have no regard for future years, can profitably grind up, or burn, every stick as big as one's wrist, and undoubtedly they do, in some instances, absolutely clear every acre they go over. It is probably a very shortsighted policy for any man owning his own land and having an eye to the future; but, it pays temporarily.

"In the Adirondacks, in years gone by, the lumberman has had laid at his door many sins of which he was innocent, but which were fairly chargeable to the charcoal burning for the iron purposes. Up to the present time the lumberman removes only the mature pine and spruce; and occasionally, the hemlock. All the young trees of these varieties together with all the hard wood are left. As a result the value of the forest for a watershed is not injured in the slightest degree, and as far as the appearance of the woods is concerned, no one but an experienced woodsman could tell whether the lands had been lumbered over or not.

"As to forest fires, they are certainly to be dreaded, and no one understands this any better than the lumberman. We have thousands of reasons, worth a dollar apiece, for taking every possible precaution against them. Fires generally originate from one of three sources, campers, locomotives, or lumbermen.* We have seen a forest fire started by a stroke of lightning. The superficial layer in all these forests consists of what is called "duff," a vegetable mold, the result of the decay and decomposition of leaves, branches, and fallen trees, varying in depth

Correct as regards this locality; but three-fourths of the forest fires in the Adirondacks are caused by farmers who use fire in clearing their land. [See annual reports of firewardens.]

from two or three inches to a foot or two. The least spark thrown into this may smolder for days, and then be fanned into flame by the first passing breeze.

"Visitors, through ignorance of the danger, or guides, through carelessness or inattention may leave a campfire without thoroughly extinguishing it; or throw a burning match, a lighted cigar stump or the burning tobacco from the bottom of a pipe into this material. Of course, in only a small percentage of these instances does a fire follow; but it should be borne in mind that there is always a possibility that it may. In point of fact many forest fires have originated in this way, and we have frequently been obliged to send out men to extinguish them.

"Lumbermen must habitually leave the tree tops on the ground, where the next year they become as dry as tinder, and the best possible food for flames that may be started. A year or two later they will have fallen to the ground, where they become dampened and more compact, and the danger is materially lessened. We know of no way of avoiding this danger entirely. It would be minimized if the pulp makers would pay enough for the smaller branches to make it profitable to remove them. In the meantime we make it a condition with all the jobbers who cut on our lands, that they shall lop off the branches of all the tops so as to allow them to fall to the ground and decay as rapidly as possible. In all our lumber camps precautions against starting a fire are most rigidly enforced.

"When a forest fire once gains headway, especially if the wind is blowing, to get it again under control is often impossible by human means. We do not know as to the truth of the story, but have been told that in one of your civil service examinations for the position of forester, the question was asked, "What would you do in case you discovered a forest fire under full headway?" The reply was, "Trust in God and pray for rain." That certainly covered the ground pretty well.

"That many fires have been started by sparks from locomotives will not, we presume, be denied. As regards this danger we are particularly fortunate. The gentleman who built the railroad running through our property was also the owner of thousands of acres of timber lands along its line. He understood the danger perfectly, and had more reasons than any one else to guard against it. The engines habitually used on this road exhaust from a high pressure cylinder into a larger one of much lower pressure, and the steam goes out through the stack with much less force than in the ordinary locomotives, carrying, of course, fewer sparks with it. Besides, the spark arrester is made of finer mesh than usual. Up to the present time we have had no trouble from this source; but we all dread to see a main-line locomotive go through there.

"The most dangerous season of the year, as far as this point is concerned, is in the spring, after the snow is off the ground, and before the trees have fully leaved out. During this period we send watchers over the entire length of the railroad through our lands, twice a day, to make certain that no fire gets a start. During the two seasons that the road has been running only two fires have been reported to the manager, and

these have been readily and promptly extinguished. The railroad authorities have also carefully cleared up their right of way, thereby greatly diminishing the danger.

"It seems to us that enough has been said to show that the objects had in view by the State in the establishment of an Adirondack Park, and the objects aimed at by associations such as ours, are, in the main, identical. We desire and intend to preserve the forest in such condition as to have a protected watershed; we assist in enforcing the game laws so as to preserve and increase the number of fish and deer; and we have more reasons, and more practical ones, than any one else for preventing and promptly subduing forest fires. While we are writing this, one of our steamers and a crew of men is engaged, without any hope or prospect of remuneration, in putting out a fire in the Township south of us. Our reasons for doing all these things may be different from those that the State would advance, but we practically aim at the same end.

"Very truly yours,

"SAMUEL B. WARD."

Dr. Ward's well-known reputation as a veteran Adirondacker and sportsman entitle his views to the careful consideration of everyone interested in the forestry question.

One thing is certain that this Township is in good hands and that its forests will be protected. The Upper Saranac Lake, which is on this property, is one of the fairest spots in all the Wilderness. It is open to the public and will be preserved by its owners in all its primeval beauty.

The Saranac Club.

It may be of interest to the travelers and sportsmen of the Adirondacks to know that there is one club whose elegant and commodious house is open to them, and whose grounds are not posted with forbidding trespass signs.

The large and handsome structure erected by the members of the Saranac Club, on the old Bartlett Carry, will compare favorably in all its appointments and comforts with the finest hotels in the Adirondacks. It has a charming situation, and the architectural design is bold and pleasing. Best of all, the club members who own it are willing to share a good thing with the public, and its doors are open to the weary tourist or sportsman

who may pass that way. The traveler may rest upon its broad and cool piazzas, and refresh himself at its inviting table; furthermore, if unobjectionable or properly introduced, he can remain and enjoy all the comforts and privileges of this lovely spot by paying the rates usually paid for superior accommodations. Throughout the woods, there is many a tourist, sportsman, and guide, who cannot say enough in praise of the hospitable arrangements of the Saranac Club.

Among the first and best of Adirondack landlords was Virgil Bartlett, who established himself in 1854, on the "carry" since and still known by his name, as the "Bartlett Carry," a lovely slope of land at the headwaters of the Saranac River, where the outlet of the Upper Saranac Lake flows in a foaming torrent over its rocky bed to the Middle Saranac. Here for over thirty years, Bartlett kept a comfortable house and set his well-spread table; and to every old habitue of the Northern Adirondacks, no name more than his brings up pleasant recollections of the woods.*

In 1889, soon after his death, the property passed into the hands of a number of gentlemen, mostly former visitors, who organized the Saranac Club as a summer woodland home for themselves, their families, and guests.

Bartlett's hotel was originally a log house, which had, as his customers increased, been enlarged and improved several times, until at last it contained about thirty rooms, affording accommodations to about fifty guests. Its new owners, the Saranac Club, in the spring of 1891, thoroughly refitted it, making it much more comfortable and greatly improving its external appearance. Most unfortunately, and from a cause never discovered, in July of that year, it took fire and burned to the ground.

The present club house was completed in July, 1893. It is situated on a slight elevation, affording fine views, especially to the east over the Saranac River, and the Middle Saranac Lake, and stands about 300 feet west of the hollow where the Bartlett House, or old club house, stood. Almost opposite, and a little east of the new club house, on the "Carry" road, stands a large

* From the tastefully printed and illustrated publication of the Saranac Club.





S. R. Stoddard, Photo

BLUFF ISLAND, LOWER SARANAC LAKE.

cottage, built in 1891, by a few of the members as an annex to the old house. This is a substantial building with about twenty rooms conveniently fitted up, affording its occupants most comfortable quarters, with somewhat more privacy than the club house itself. It is known as the "Combination Cottage."

This locality is easily reached by the Delaware and Hudson railroad, and Chateaugay railroad route, which lands passengers at the village of Saranac Lake. From the latter point, the trip is made by "guide-boat" through the Lower Saranac Lake, with its many picturesque islands; thence through the Saranac River into the Middle Saranac Lake, passing through it almost under the shadows of Ampersand Mountain which rises grandly from its southern shore, and landing at the boat-house at the foot of the lawn in front of "Bartlett's." In fair weather this is a delightful row of about three hours; but in rainy and stormy weather the waters of the Middle Saranac Lake are rough and dangerous, if not impassable. Since 1892, the place is easily accessible from the Adirondack Division of the New York Central railroad. By this route passengers leave the train at Saranac Inn Station, and go down the Upper Lake on a steamer, which, after a delightful ride of an hour or so, lands them at the club house dock.

The club has excellent accommodations for about one hundred persons, and as its membership is not large it can usually accommodate a few others, friends of members, or strangers properly introduced.

There are twenty-four members. The officers are: President, Jonathan J. Broome, 377 Broadway, New York; vice-president, Washington Wilson, 33 East Seventeenth street, New York; treasurer, S. Hedding Fitch, 120 Broadway, New York; secretary, R. D. Douglass, 314 Broadway, New York.

The club owns but little land, the members doing most of their hunting and fishing on the State Forest Preserve, a large tract of which is in the immediate vicinity. The club owns 267 acres, in fee, it being the land on which its buildings have been erected. This land is known as Lot 19, Township 23, Macomb's Purchase, and is situated in Franklin County, in the town of Harrietstown.

Kushaquua Park.

This property is situated principally in Township 10, Old Military Tract, Franklin County. It contains 4,332 acres composed of the following parcels: Lots 213, 214, 215, 227, 228, 252, 253, 266, 267, 268, 269, 292, 295, 296, 307, 308, 309, and 331, each containing 200 acres; and Lot 351, containing 240 acres, all in Township 10, Old Military Tract; also Lot 50, and one-half of Lot 40 (492 acres) adjoining the other lots, and situated in the town of Brighton.

Lake Kushaquua (formerly Round Pond) is mostly within the Kushaquua Park; also a large part of Buck Pond, all of Oregon Pond, and two-thirds of Rainbow Lake and Clear Pond. On Lake Kushaquua there is a hotel which accommodates over one hundred guests during the summer, with two cottages adjoining.

The property is owned by Mr. A. G. Leonard and Mr. F. G. Smith, of New York, who intend to make it a summer resort, and a place where recreation may be combined with hunting and fishing. Lake Kushaquua, on which the hotel, or club house, stands, is a large, beautiful sheet of water connected with other lakes and ponds all of which afford pleasant boating and good fishing. This preserve is not closed to the public. The Adirondack and St. Lawrence railroad and the Chateaugay railroad both pass through the property. The railroad stations Kushaquua and Onchioto on the Adirondack and St. Lawrence railroad, and the station at Oregon and at Hartwell's on the Chateaugay railroad are all within these lands.

On Lot 309, at Oregon Pond, the company have a saw mill which is partly stocked from the merchantable timber on their lands; but as the supply from this source is now nearly exhausted their stock of logs will soon have to be obtained elsewhere. On Lot 253 there is a small village of eighteen families, or about 100 people, who are employed at the mill or around the hotel. This village is called Roakedale, having been named after Mr. S. A. Roake, the superintendent. In addition to its dwelling houses the village has a school-house, store, and blacksmith shop.

Ragged Lake Rod and Gun Club.

The property of this club is located in Franklin County and in the Town of Belmont. It owns 100 acres of Lot 95, and 250 acres of Lot 85, in Township 8, Old Military Tract. The club does not occupy any leased land, but the gamekeeper, who resides with his family at the club house during the whole year, has the care of several hundred acres of forest land in immediate vicinity.

There are twenty members all of whom, with one exception, reside in Syracuse, N. Y.

The officers are: President, A. C. Belden, Syracuse, N. Y.; vice-president, Fred. Frazer, Syracuse, N. Y.; secretary and treasurer, Geo. S. Hier, Syracuse, N. Y.; auditor, E. D. Dickinson, Syracuse, N. Y.

The gamekeeper is Mr. Gardner Smith, whose post-office address is at Owl's Head, Franklin County, N. Y.

The land is mostly timbered, about twenty-five acres having been cleared. The lake is well stocked with brook trout, German brown trout, and salmon trout. The club has a small hatchery of its own, and endeavors to plant some trout fry every season. Some of the fry are hatched on the premises and some are obtained each year from the State hatcheries. The members use every effort to have the game laws enforced, and report that now these laws are generally observed in their locality. Deer are plentiful, and a few bears are found each season in that vicinity.

Ragged Lake is made up from a series of small lakes, commencing at the head with "Figure Eight," then Lily Pad, Upper Mud Pond, Geddes, Belden, and Ragged Lake. It is about eight miles from its headwaters to the club lands, and is surrounded by mountains and beautiful scenery. There is very little burned ground about the property. The club has a comfortable building which accommodates twenty-five persons; also a trout hatchery, stables, ice-house and boat-house. No timber cutting is allowed on the land, and no timber contracts have been let. The primary object of the members is hunting, fishing, health, and recreation. The club was incorporated September 17, 1884.

Vilas Game and Fish Preserve.

These lands embrace in all, 36,195 acres, lying on either side of the county line in Franklin and St. Lawrence Counties. They include four tracts:

One of 16,752 acres, in Township 16,—“John’s Manor,”—Macomb’s Purchase, Town of Waverly, Franklin County, all primeval forest, in which no timber-cutting has been done.

One of 14,500 acres, in the south half of Township 12,—“Riversdale,”—Macomb’s Purchase, Town of Hopkinton, St. Lawrence County, part of which has been “lumbered,”* and the remainder is under contract to be lumbered. On this tract the birch, maple, and beech, which constitute about eighty per cent of the forest, are reserved and not included in the lumber contract.

One of 2,443 acres (Carpenter Tract), in the northeast corner of Township 9,—“Kildare”,—Macomb’s Purchase, Town of Hopkinton, St. Lawrence County, including Lots 41, 49, and 50, and such parts of Lots 33, 34, and 42 as are situated east of the West Branch of the St. Regis River, all of which have been lumbered.

And one of 2,500 acres in Township 9,—“Kildare”,—Macomb’s Purchase, Town of Hopkinton, St. Lawrence County, including Lots 43, 44, 51, and 52. This latter tract, which is all original forest, has been leased.

No club or association has been formed, as yet, in connection with this preserve, the entire tract being under the control and management of Mr. E. A. Carpenter, of Cambridge, Mass. His gamekeepers are Ithiel Wilcox and A. Judd, of Parishville, N. Y. The land is held for fishing and hunting purposes, but will be released to clubs or associations if desired, either as a whole or in part. The spruce, pine, hemlock, and cedar on the 16,700 acres in Township 16, is offered for sale. The pine on these lands is remarkably large and of fine growth.

This preserve contains a large number of lakes and ponds, which are much frequented by deer in quest of the rich feed to be found along those shores. Two branches of the St. Regis River

* That is, the spruce and pine have been removed.

run diagonally through the entire tract, furnishing plenty of fishing and hunting. It is claimed that there are fifty-five miles of good trout fishing along these streams. Wolf, Elbow, Little Rock, Long, and McDonald Ponds are situated in this tract, the latter being a large lake and a favorite resort for the deer hunters from Paul Smith's vicinity. There are some mountains, the largest one being Buck Mountain, a well-known peak near Brandon, or Paul Smith's Station, on the Northern Adirondack Railway.

"Headquarters" are at Wolf Pond, where some buildings have been erected on a pleasantly-located camp-ground. From here a wagon road, running north, leads to Phelps's Blue Mountain* House, eight miles distant.

Childwold Park.

The Childwold Estate is situated in Township 6, Macomb's Purchase, Great Tract 2, Town of Hopkinton, St. Lawrence County, N. Y. It contains about 12,000 acres all of which is included in a private preserve except the part occupied by the village of Childwold, leaving in the preserve, 9,802 acres. Included in the preserve is Childwold Park, 5,109 acres, incorporated as the Childwold Park Hotel Co. The entire property is owned by Addison Child, of Childwold, N. Y., and Henry G. Dorr, of Boston, Mass.

Childwold Park is a fish and game preserve, and summer resort. It includes Lake Massawepie and six smaller lakes or ponds. Deer are very plentiful. Both lake trout and brook trout are caught in these lakes, and the latter, also, in neighboring streams. Bass are caught in the Raquette River, which runs through the township for about nine miles. The scenery is of great beauty and exceedingly picturesque, though not what might be called grand. Arab Mountain is on the border of Childwold, Matumbula and Moosehead Mountains, are within the township, from all of which the views are extensive.

* Not the Blue Mountain in Hamilton county; this one is called Mt.ASURE in Colvin's survey. Its altitude is 2,368 ft.

The property is well timbered with spruce, hemlock, maple, beech, birch, cherry, and cedar. Such as have been cut within the precincts of the park have been mainly used therein; also much that has been cut on other portions of the estate. No timber is allowed to be cut except mature trees, and these are felled as judiciously as possible so as not to injure the younger growth.

The intention of the owners is to make this tract a preserve and pleasure resort for all time. They sell no land in or about the Park, and lease only for camp-sites. Pains are taken to preserve the forest in its original wildness, interfering with natural conditions only so far as may be needful and consistent with its development as a summer resort.

A large commodious hotel has been erected by the Park Company on Lake Massawepie, in a beautiful situation, the outlook from its piazzas being especially pleasing and restful. A road has recently been cut through the forest to the Adirondack and St. Lawrence railroad, four and one-half miles distant. The lake and woodland scenery along this road make the drive an exceedingly pleasant one.

Kildare Club.

This club was incorporated May 11, 1892, the date on which the article of incorporation was filed at Albany, in the office of the Secretary of State. Its lands are situated in St. Lawrence County, in Townships 9 and 6, Macomb's Purchase, Town of Hopkinton. Like many other Adirondack townships*, Township 9 has a name as well as a number, and is known as Kildare; hence the name of the club.

This preserve includes 9,903 acres of land, embracing two distinct but closely-situated tracts. One is in Kildare (Township 9), surrounding Jordan and Amber Lakes, and is composed of seven lots—Nos. 29, 30, 31, 32, 37, 38, and 39—each lot containing 640 acres, or one square mile; total, in this tract, 4,480 acres. The other tract is situated in Township 6,—“Piercefield”,—and embraces that part of the northeast corner of the

* Not towns; in the Adirondacks the word towns and township have different meanings.

township known as the Giddings Tract, containing 5,423 acres. The remainder of Township 6 is occupied largely by the Childwold Preserve.

The officers of the club are: President, Mr. Frederick W. Vanderbilt, Grand Central Station, New York; secretary and treasurer, Mr. George Bird, 27 West Thirty-third street, New York.

There are twelve members in the club: Messrs. Frederick W. Vanderbilt, George Bird, William K. Vanderbilt, Wm. Seward Webb, H. Walter Webb, George Appleton, Edward H. Wales, J. Louis Webb, George B. De Forest, William D. Sloane, H. McK. Twombly, and John Henry Purdy, all of New York.

The club does not permit any timber-cutting on its lands, and has let no timber contracts. The property has been carefully preserved for twelve years. The fishing is excellent and the game unsurpassed, for abundance, in the Adirondacks. The deer have increased tenfold since the land has been protected. This is largely attributed by the owners to the fact that hounds are not allowed to run in St. Lawrence County.

Henry Day, of Stark, St. Lawrence County, is the club gamekeeper; Frederick and Clarence Day are assistant gamekeepers, and act also as guides.

Cutting Preserve.

This tract contains 7,510 acres, situated in Township 12, "Riversdale," Macomb's Purchase, Town of Hopkinton, St. Lawrence County. It is the property of Mr. Frank A. Cutting, of Boston, Mass. He states that two years ago he was so much annoyed by campers, who peeled his spruce trees to get bark with which to build shanties, that, in order to protect his property, he made a game preserve of the tract, and posted notices according to law, since which he has had very little trouble.

The land is rolling land, and is the watershed of Stony Brook, which flows into the West Branch of the St. Regis River; also a part of it is a watershed for Trout Lake.

The timber on this land has never been taken off. It is a mixed growth of spruce, hemlock, beech, birch, maple, and other

species in less abundance. There is also considerable pine. It is the owner's intention to lumber the tract, but to confine the cutting to the larger trees, leaving the smaller ones for a future growth. He complains that there seems to be a tendency on the part of the local assessors to increase, unduly, the taxes on timber lands belonging to non-residents, a policy which compels the owners to either abandon their timber lands or else cut them over in order to get some revenue to offset the taxes.

A plan is now being perfected to organize a club in connection with this property, in which case the name of the preserve will probably be changed.

Raquette Club.

The property of this association embraces 1,750 acres in St. Lawrence County, Town of Clifton. It is situated in Township 4—"Harewood"—, Macomb's Purchase, Great Tract Two, the east line of the preserve adjoining Township 5—"Jamestown," and touching on its north line the lands of the Hollywood Club.

The officers are: President, John H. Denison, Williamstown, Mass.; secretary and treasurer, John Hopkins Denison, Williamstown, Mass.

Executive committee: John H. Denison, Williamstown, Mass.; William Howard Doughty, Troy, N. Y.; H. L. Yves, Potsdam, N. Y.

There are ten members in the club, one of whom is Dr. Franklin Carter, LL. D., president of Williams College. The land was purchased in 1889, of Hepburn & Spear, who reserved in the deed the right to cut certain kinds of timber on the preserve for a period of twelve years. The species thus specified in the contract included the evergreen trees usually cut by lumbermen at that time. The most of the timber that could be taken under this contract has already been removed. The cutting has not, however, injured the appearance of the preserve to any extent, a large amount of young evergreens, together with all the original hard-wood trees, having been left; nor does it appear to have injured it as a habitat of the deer; for the club

men, according to their statement, have had no difficulty in procuring game.

There are four ponds on the preserve, three of which are connected by a stream too shallow for boats; but, by the erection of a low dam, this stream can be made into a continuous and beautiful waterway through the property, without flooding or destroying any timber.

The ponds were nearly "fished out" at the time of the purchase, and have not been stocked since. But the fish have been increasing, and some fine trout have recently been taken from them. The club employs a gamekeeper, who takes care of its buildings and looks after matters on its preserve.

Granshue Club.

This preserve is situated in Granshue Township, Town of Colton, St. Lawrence County. "Granshue" was the name given to Township 7, Great Tract Two, Macomb's Purchase. The lands included in this preserve are contained in the particular tract which occupies the south one-third of the township, known as the "9,072-acre tract." The southeast corner of this tract, containing $320\frac{4}{10}$ acres, is owned by the Hollywood Club, leaving $8,751\frac{9}{100}$ acres in the Granshue Preserve. Within this preserve are Long, Amsberg, and Little Blue Ponds; also, a stretch of the Grasse River, over three miles long.

The club has for its aim and object the social enjoyment of its members, the protection of fish and game, and the excellent fishing and hunting which its property affords. It was incorporated June 27, 1890, with ten members, its membership having been increased subsequently to fifteen. Its officers are: President, C. R. Holmes, Potsdam, N. Y.; vice-president, A. D. Heath, Potsdam, N. Y.; secretary and treasurer, George C. Lewis, Potsdam, N. Y.

The board of trustees is composed of these officers, together with Mr. B. T. Scott, and Mr. F. A. Weed, both of Potsdam. Hon. William R. Weed, of the State Forest Commission, is also

a member of this club. The association have five camps,* pleasantly situated on its various waters. The game and fish are much more plentiful than when the tract was converted into a preserve. Mr. Lewis, the secretary, writes that the members are unanimous in their opinion that the increase of deer and trout in the Adirondacks is wholly due to the protection which the private preserves afford.

Forest Home.

This preserve is situated in the Town of Diana, Lewis County, on the middle branch of the Oswegatchie River and its tributaries. It is owned by Warren Humes, Esq.; post-office address, Harrisville, N. Y.

It includes 850 acres owned in fee by Mr. Humes, and 30,000 acres of leased land adjoining the property. These leased lands extend into Herkimer and St. Lawrence Counties.

These lands are well timbered, being covered with a mixed growth of pine, hemlock, spruce, balsam, cedar, maple, beech, birch, ash, cherry, elm, and basswood. The soft woods have been partly cut on that part of the preserve situated in Lewis County; but none has been cut on that in Herkimer and St. Lawrence. On the 850 acres owned by Mr. Humes there is a fine sugar bush containing 8,000 trees.

Liger's (Elijah's) Lake, a sheet of water containing ninety acres, is also situated on Humes's land, while scattered through the preserve there are ten other smaller lakes and ponds. There is some fine scenery on the Oswegatchie River, on which there are nine falls within seven miles. These falls vary in height from twenty to one hundred feet, and with their foaming cataracts and deep canons are wonderfully picturesque.

Deer still abound and there are some bears left in this locality. There are plenty of partridge and other small game. Speckled trout are plentiful and of good size, running from a quarter to three pounds in weight.

* In the Adirondacks the word camp does not imply tents; these camps almost always consist of permanent buildings, some of which are erected at considerable expense and provided with every arrangement for comfort.

Warren Humes is a veteran hunter, and is known as such far and wide throughout the northwest woods. With the natural advantages of his preserve, combined with his lifelong experience, the sporting public find this forest well worth a visit.

Litchfield Park.

This land is situated in the exact southwest corner of Franklin County, it being the south third of Township 25. It comprises 8,600 acres. The property was recently purchased by Mr. Edward H. Litchfield, of New York, for the purpose of establishing a private fish and game preserve. There was a lumber contract on the property which has just expired, and will not be renewed. This contract affected only the pine and spruce. The lumbermen did not do much damage, as there was only a small proportion of soft wood on the tract. The standing timber consists largely of sugar maple, beech, birch, hemlock, and spruce. Mr. Litchfield purchased from the lumbermen the standing pine around the shores of his lakes with a view of keeping that part of his property in its primeval condition.

There is no intention of lumbering the tract in the future, unless the work is done under the direction of a skilled forester. There are several lakes on the preserve, Lake Madeleine (formerly Jenkins Pond) being the largest. The proprietor thinks that considerable injury was done to the fishing by the lumbermen, through the choking up with tree-tops and brush of some of the brooks running into the lake, thus preventing the free access of the trout to the spawning beds. Some of these streams have been cleaned out as an experiment, and it is expected that the fish will return and avail themselves of the benefit of the open channel. A small herd of elk, eleven in number, have been placed on the preserve, a wire fence inclosing a small park having been erected to prevent their escape or loss. If the elk thrive in their new feeding grounds, a small herd of moose will be added as a further experiment.

Various Clubs and Preserves.

Space will not permit any further extended notices of individual clubs or preserves. The descriptions already given here will serve to give some idea of the objects and management of the Adirondack Preserves. A brief mention of some others, however, may not be amiss.

Bog Lake Camp.—This property is situated in Township 37, Totten and Crossfield Purchase, in the north part of Hamilton County, and adjoining the St. Lawrence County line. It occupies the triangular part of Township No. 37, which lies north of the railroad. This preserve includes 5,258 acres in Township 37, and 105 acres around Bog Lake, in Township 38; total, 5,363 acres. There are 926 acres more, north of the railroad, the title to which is in dispute. The preserve is owned by Mr. Charles A. Tatum, 46 Barclay street, New York, and Mr. Edmund C. Converse, Haver-meyer Building, New York. It includes the whole of Bog Lake, Clear Pond, and Davis Pond; also, the larger part of Mud Lake. The waters are naturally stocked with brook trout. The woods, which have never been lumbered, contain plenty of game—deer, ruffed grouse, bear, foxes, raccoons, squirrels, rabbits, muskrats, mink and otter.

Santa Clara Preserve.—This property, embracing 62,000 acres, is owned by the lumber firm of Dodge, Meigs & Co., of New York, who have a large mill at Santa Clara, Franklin County, N. Y. The lands include portions of Townships 10, 11, 13, 14 and 17, of Great Tract One, Macomb's Purchase, situated in the towns of Waverly and Santa Clara, in Franklin County. A large part of this tract has been lumbered over; but it is still covered with a hardwood forest, interspersed with the smaller evergreen trees which were left uncut. Some of the soft woods or evergreens were not taken at all by the lumbermen, such as the cedar, tamarack, and balsam. The Northern Adirondack railroad runs through part of the land. These woods abound in deer and smaller game, while in some of the streams and ponds there are plenty of speckled trout. This preserve was established in 1892, at which time it was duly advertised in the local papers, and "posted" in accordance with the requirements of the law. A force of





S. R. Stoddard, Photo.

THE BIG CEDAR, BOTTLE POND.

gamekeepers are on duty continually, and no hunting or fishing is allowed, except by the few persons holding permits from the owners.

Ampersand Preserve.—This property is also owned by Dodge, Meigs & Co., of New York. It includes all the land owned by them in Townships 26 and 27, Harriestown, Franklin County, and Lot 44, Township 12, Old Military Tract, Essex County; in all, about 50,000 acres. Mount Seward and Follensby Pond are situated on this property; and the land includes a part of Ampersand Pond, from which the preserve takes its name. It was established in 1892, since which time it has been "posted" and carefully guarded. The game on this and the Santa Clara Preserve has increased wonderfully, but the special attention of the keepers has been directed to the care of the forest. In more than one instance they have put out fires, and have saved valuable woods, both State and private. No club or association has been organized, the main object of the owners being to protect their forest from fire.

Hamilton Park Club.—This club owns 5,000 acres in the Northeast corner of Township 35, Totten and Crossfield Purchase, Hamilton County, being the land purchased from the heirs of John D. Clute; also, 20,000 acres in Township 36,* Totten and Crossfield Purchase, same county; total, 25,000 acres. The officers of the club are: Howard M. Durant, president, and C. T. Barney, secretary, both of New York city.

The lands of the club include the western part of Little Tupper Lake, and Lakes Josephine and Frances; also, Antediluvian, Roland, Sutton, Carey, High, Mitchell, and other ponds. It embraces, also part of the shores of Forked Lake and Plumley Pond. The lands are covered with a primeval forest.

"G" Lake Preserve.—This tract is situated in the town of Arietta, in Hamilton County, a few miles west of Piseco Lake. It comprises all of Lot 234, and the southerly part of Lot 231, Oxbow Tract, an area of 520 acres. Within its boundaries is the body of water known as "G" Lake.

*The title to this is in litigation.

The property is owned by E. Z. Wright and John D. Collins, of Utica, N. Y., who hold it as a private park, for the preservation of its natural springs, the game and fish, and the preservation of the timber intact. The trees are largely spruce and hemlock, interspersed with hard woods—beech, birch, and maple. The land is covered with a virgin forest. The owners will not allow any timber cutting on the premises.

Connell Preserve.—This tract consists of the 8,266 acres in the eastern part of the south half of Township 15—"Emilyville"—, Macomb's Purchase, Great Tract Two, Town of Fine, St. Lawrence County. It is owned by Mr. D. C. Connell, of New York, who, in accordance with the law, holds it as a private preserve. For the past thirteen years it has been in care of Cornelius Carter, gamekeeper.

The land is heavily timbered with a primeval forest, composed of spruce, pine, hemlock, beech, birch, cherry, and several other species. The Oswegatchie River flows across the property from west to east, and at one place on this river, within the preserve, are some picturesque falls, twenty-four feet in height. This tract is famous throughout Northern New York as a fishing and hunting district. The land is rolling, without any remarkable elevations, and contains abundant evidences of mineral deposits. The so-called "Mineral Plains" are situated on this tract.

King Park.—This tract embraces the middle one-third of Township 25, Great Tract One, Macomb's Purchase, Town of Altamont, Franklin County, and contains 8,600 acres. It is the property of Mr. Franklin A. King, of Boston, Mass. Mount Morris and Little Simon's Pond are on this land.

Hall & Patton Preserve.—Situated on the northwest corner of Township 8, Moose River Tract, adjoining the lands of the Adirondack League Club. It includes the West Canada Lakes, and contains 5,000 acres. The owners keep a gamekeeper on the land all the year; but the preserve is open to the public so long as the State forest and game laws are observed.

Paul Smith's Preserve.—Although the lands on this famous property have not been formally set apart by law as a private preserve, they are practically held as such, although open to

the public. These lands embrace about 18,700 acres, and include the southeast quarter of Township 18, and the northerly part of Township 21, Macomb's Purchase, in Franklin County. The St. Regis Lakes, Osgood Pond, and Big Clear Pond, are situated on this property.

Everton Preserve.—The lands owned by the Everton Lumber Company, situated in Townships 11, 12, 14, and 15, Great Tract One, Macomb's Purchase, Franklin County, compose this tract, their area amounting to 10,240 acres, and lying almost wholly in the east half of Township 11. C. P. Whitney, W. J. Martin, and J. A. Fraser, are the gamewardens.

Mountain Park.—This is the property of H. McK. Twombly and others of New York city. It is a primeval forest, occupying Township 23(and the adjoining triangle), Totten and Crossfield Purchase, Hamilton County. A large part of Little Tupper Lake is situated on this tract; also, Grampus Lake and the Slim Pond Chain. It is a good fishing and hunting ground, and, as yet, is open to the public. The territory occupies 36,583 acres, not including the two parcels which belong to the Forest Preserve.

Hollywood Club.—This club was incorporated December 9, 1889, the article of incorporation being signed by Edward P. Ingersoll, George Safford, and Hawley J. Goodwin, all of New York.

Their lands are situated in St. Lawrence County, in the towns of Clifton and Colton. The lands include 10,796 acres, located in Townships 4, 5, and 7, "Harewood," "Jamestown," and "Granshue." The officers of the club are: President, Dr. C. C. French, Newark, N. J.; treasurer, Frederick Lum, Newark, N. J.; secretary, Addison Spear, Boston, Mass.

Catskill Preserves.

There are a few private preserves in the Catskill region, owned and managed by clubs which were organized in order to control the trout fishing in certain localities and to furnish a summer resort for their members. There are no deer in the Catskills except the herd which is owned by the State, which will be turned loose during the coming season. But the law prohibits deer shooting there at present. Occasionally, a stray deer from Pennsylvania, crosses the Delaware river and wanders into Sullivan County; but they are few in number and are rarely seen. The deer which once inhabited the Catskill forest are extinct. The clubs, therefore, are limited in the hunting to small game. The trout fishing, however, is good in many of the streams.

The preserves are few in number, and none of them approach in size the large areas set apart for such purposes by the Adirondack clubs. Among the private preserves in the Catskills, mention should be made of the following:

The Wawarsing Fishing Club.

The objects for which this club was formed are fishing for brook trout and other fish, and the purchasing and leasing of lands, ponds, and streams for the common use of its members.

The certificate of incorporation says that the number of trustees who shall manage said club shall be twelve, and the names of those who shall manage the same for the first year are Dwight Durue, S. B. Moore, George S. Kimble, Benjamin B. Demarest, Hiram H. Terwilliger, John F. S. Eastgate, John J. Clyne, Goldsboro B. Garrison, Horton Tice, Arthur G. Smith, Frank V. Sanford, and George H. Bush. The office of the club is situated at Ellenville, Ulster county, N. Y. The certificate of incorporation was filed April 6, 1888.



S. R. Stoddard, Photo

LAKE WINNISOOK, CATSKILLS.

The Winnisook Club.

The objects for which this association was formed were the ownership of land and the erection of a club-house, cottages, and other buildings, and the construction of fish ponds in the vicinity of Slide Mountain in the Catskill Mountains, Ulster County, New York. The amount of capital stock is \$6,300; and the term of existence of said company is to be fifty years.

The trustees are Alton B. Parker, Thomas E. Benedict, William L. Rodie, Thomas G. Evans, Charles M. Preston, Joseph H. Risely, and John W. Searing. The office is at the club house, Slide Mountain, Shandaken, Ulster County, N. Y. The certificate was filed, April 26, 1890.

Birch Brook Club.

The certificate of incorporation states that the objects for which said society is formed are the procuring of a suitable piece of ground, and the erection and maintenance of a suitable club house thereon upon Birch Creek, in the vicinity of Pine Hill. Ulster county, N. Y., for the use of the members for social, literary, and recreative purposes; that the land and club house shall be either acquired by the club in its own ownership or leased by it for a term of years or otherwise, as may be found advisable, together with the furnishing of said club house, the improvement of the grounds appertaining thereto, and the procuring, owning and maintaining, from time to time, of all useful, desirable, or convenient adjuncts thereto.

The managers of the club for the first year are Howard Crosby, George Munro, Arthur H. Allen, Henry M. McCracken, and Wm. A. Houghton.

The club house is located upon Birch Creek, in the neighborhood of Pine Hill, Ulster County, N. Y.

The certificate was filed, September 23, 1890.

Beaver Dam Club.

The particular business and object of this club is hunting and fishing, the propagation of game and fish, and acquiring lands, ponds, lakes, and streams for said purposes.

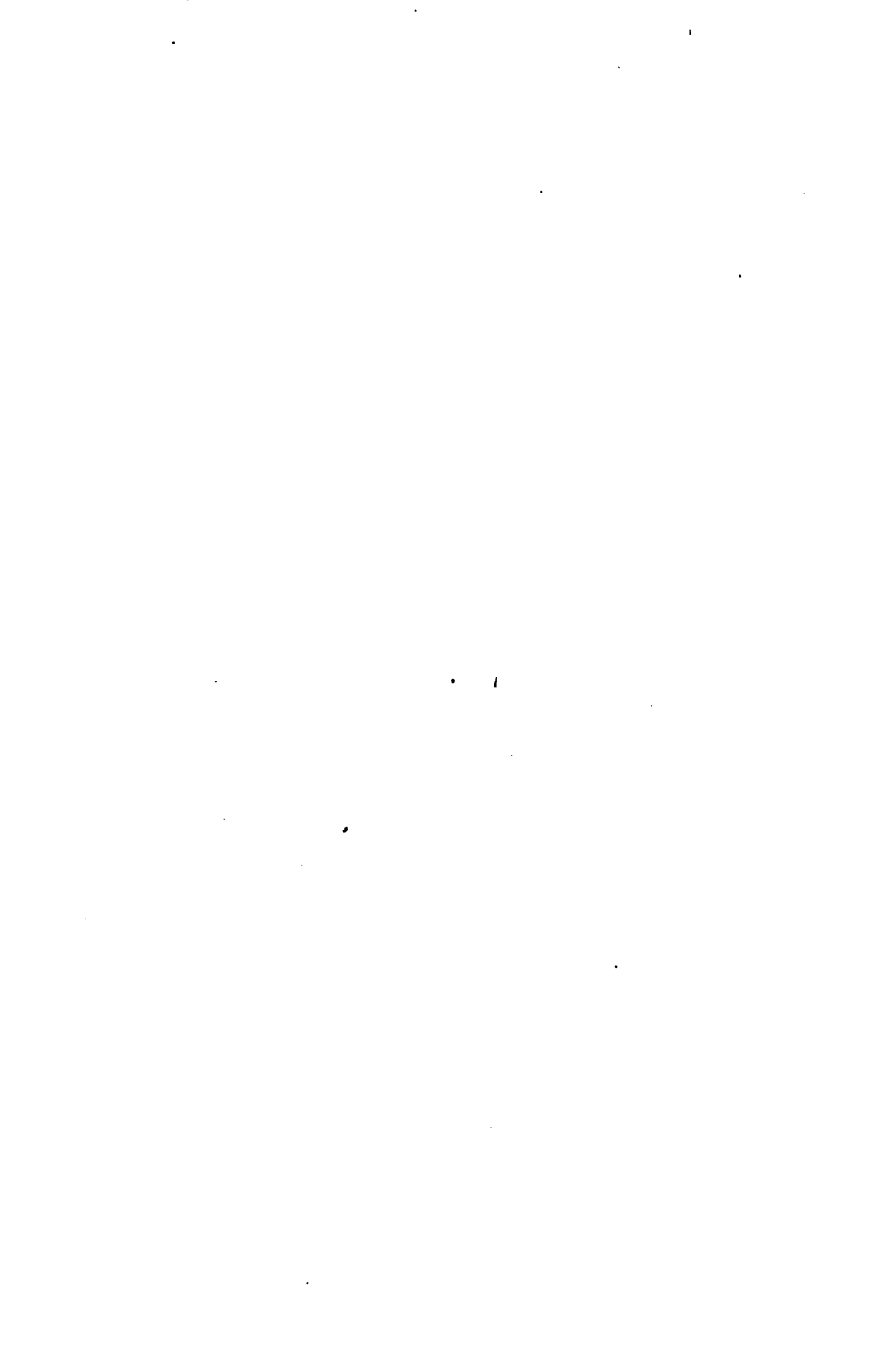
The trustees named to manage the club for the first year, are: George B. Childs, Arthur G. Smith, Stephen E. D. Hoombeck, Louis R. Benedict, John J. Ryan, George H. Dutcher, Goldsboro B. Garrison, Hiram H. Terwilliger, Dwight Devine, and Clark Eaton. Office at Ellenville, N. Y. Certificate filed, December 12, 1890.

The Alder Lake Club.

This corporation was formed for the purpose of purchasing, acquiring, holding and improving real estate in the vicinity of and at Alder Lake, in the Town of Hardenburgh, in Ulster County, N. Y.; for erecting and maintaining thereon a club house, cottages and other buildings; for constructing fish ponds, and apportioning and distributing the said real estate among the stockholders and members of said corporation.

Capital stock, \$7,000; office at city of Kingston, Ulster County, N. Y.; duration of said corporation, fifty years; certificate filed August 11, 1891.

ANNUAL PRODUCT
OF THE
ADIRONDACK FORESTS
FOR
1892 AND 1893.





LUMBER CAMP.
Township 20, Hamilton County.

W. H. Tippetts, Photo.



LOG HAULING ON CATLIN LAKE.

W. H. Tippetts, Photo.

Annual Consumption of Timber.

The annual consumption of timber in the great forest of northern New York, as shown in the exhaustive statistics gathered by this department, amounts, on the average, to 343,000,000 feet, board measure, not including the timber used by the wood-pulp mills, which amounts annually to 85,000,000 feet more. This statement is based on the figures mailed to us from the offices of the various saw-mills and pulp-mills that draw their supply of logs and timber from this forest. Each firm, with few exceptions, replied promptly and courteously to our letters soliciting this information, sending in detailed reports, many of which gave the number of feet in exact figures, to the unit, instead of in round numbers as is customary* and allowable in reporting statistics of this particular industry.

In the few instances where a statement was not received direct, an agent was sent to the mill, and an approximate estimate of the number of feet sawed was thus obtained.

Assuming that the average yield of merchantable timber per acre is 4,000 feet, including pulp timber, it appears that this class of timber on 107,000 acres is taken annually from our northern forest; that each year the spruce, pine, hemlock, and available hard wood on this area are removed. Of the merchantable species, three-fourths of the "sawing" timber, and nearly all the pulp wood, is composed of spruce.

Fully two-fifths of the great forest has already been cut over by lumbermen, who have removed the spruce and pine, leaving a forest in which there is little or no merchantable timber that can be floated down the streams. The remaining three-fifths, containing about 1,900,000 acres, is mostly virgin forest, together

*See annual reports in "The Northwestern Lumberman," of Chicago, showing the product of the saw-mills in the lumber region of the Northwestern States.

with forests which were cut over twenty-five years ago or more, but in which a second cutting of spruce could now be obtained. Hence, if the annual consumption by the mills continues at the present rate the supply of merchantable timber, or what is merchantable to-day, will be exhausted in twenty years.

For the benefit of our citizens, many of whom in their zeal for forest preservation are apt to misinterpret statistics of this kind, we would call attention to the fact that these operations do not necessarily imply forest denudation or forest destruction to any serious extent. This was particularly true of the methods employed prior to the introduction of the wood-pulp industry, when the lumbermen cut large trees only, and, further, confined their cutting to three of the six* evergreens. The species cut did not constitute ten per cent of the forest, and the removal of these scattering trees was apparent only to an expert, so little change was there in the general appearance of the forest as seen from any commanding outlook. Still, the methods employed in the lumbering operations of that period tended to the complete extinction of the pine and hemlock, and, in more or less degree, to that of the spruce, although the latter species possesses a remarkable power of reproducing itself and developing its smaller trees until they take the place of the large ones which were removed.

But the methods now employed by many lumbermen are much more destructive, owing to the recent advent of the wood-pulp industry and the cutting of small spruce to supply that demand. With few exceptions the pulp-mills use spruce entirely. While the large trees are taken by the lumbermen for their saw-mills, the pulp-mills take the small spruces which are left, trees as small as four inches in diameter being available. The chemical mills can use still smaller ones. As a result, the black spruce of the Adirondacks is liable to become extinct in time, except that which is growing on the State preserve.

Within the last three years there has been a noticeable increase in the amount of hard wood taken by the axemen. Formerly

* For convenient reference the various species of pine are considered as one; and the tamarack, though not an evergreen, is generally classed with the other soft woods or conifers.

these species were everywhere left untouched, because the logs would not float, and so could not be driven down the streams with the log drives. But, lately, several mills have been erected along or within the border of the forest; the birch, maple, beech, ash, and cherry have been cut, the manufactured lumber piled and seasoned at the mill, and then, when winter came, hauled long distances on sleighs to the nearest railway station.

In such places where hard wood lumbering has been added to the cutting of spruce, pine, and hemlock, the forest is consequently well-nigh destroyed. The few small trees that remain are insufficient to hide the unsightly slash, and soon succumb to the wind, leaving in time a tract of denuded, or "waste" land as it is termed. A striking example of this kind of work may be seen on Lot 14, Township 12, Essex County, in the beautiful forest near the Adirondack lodge, not far from Lake Placid.

While the tenets of forestry require that every species should be utilized, and that no species should be allowed to propagate except those which can be utilized, it is to be regretted that, instead of taking a safe percentage of the hard woods, the entire yield should be removed at one cutting. To the dire waste and destruction of the present is added a total disregard of the great economic principle of future supply.

Appended here we offer some statistics showing the amount of timber taken from the great forest of northern New York, in each of the years 1892 and 1893, with subdivisions showing, further, the proportionate amount of spruce, hemlock, pine, and hard wood.

We desire to extend our thanks to the gentlemen connected respectively with the various mills for their courteous assistance and co-operation in preparing these statistics, without which it would have been impossible to compile the figures with any satisfactory degree of accuracy.

GREAT FOREST OF NORTHERN NEW YORK.

AMOUNT OF LUMBER SAWED IN 1892.

(In Feet, Board Measure.)

MILLS.	Spruce.	Hemlock.	Pine.	Hardwood.	Total feet.
Morgan Lumber Co., Glens Falls, N. Y.	21,140,000	12,756,500	1,045,700	.....	34,942,200
Finch, Pruyn & Co., Glens Falls, N. Y.	25,555,145	10,385,618	327,067	*105,478	36,373,298
D. W. Sherman, Glens Falls, N. Y.	6,265,800	8,223,600	200,000	70,000	9,758,900
George H. Freeman, Glens Falls, N. Y.	8,175,000	2,523,000	207,980	32,000	10,996,980
Kenyon & Baldwin, Glens Falls, N. Y.	4,000,000	8,000,000	1,000,000	*100,000	8,100,000
Thomsons, Douglas & Dix, Fort Miller, N. Y.	8,913,399	2,358,288	917,786	30,459	12,219,918
A. C. Emerson & Co., Warrensburgh, N. Y.	815,000	1,800,000	†230,000	.....	1,885,000
Baker Brothers, Plattsburgh, N. Y.	11,600,000	950,000	2,000,000	.....	†14,550,000
Ladd & Smallman, Clinton Mills, N. Y.	400,000	550,000	.....	50,000	1,000,000
A. B. Parmelee & Son, Malone, N. Y.	2,623,000	.....	.....	.....	2,623,000
Scott G. Boyce, Malone, N. Y.	1,200,000	100,000	.....	300,000	1,600,000
Anson Hutchins, Dickinson Centre, N. Y.	150,000	15,000	20,000	150,000	385,000
Shanley Lumber Co., Shanley, N. Y.	3,000,000	.....	.....	.....	3,000,000
Everton Lumber Co., Everton, N. Y.	6,000,000	.....	510,000	.....	6,510,000
Santa Clara Lumber Co., Santa Clara, N. Y.	9,733,583	468,909	546,725	43,430	10,792,627
Ducey Lumber Co., Brandon, N. Y.	10,000,000	.....	5,000,000	.....	15,000,000
John Hurd, Tupper Lake, N. Y.	17,000,000	.....	.....	.....	17,000,000
Hobson Lumber Co., Tupper Lake, N. Y.	1,500,000	.....	.....	.....	1,500,000
George N. Gibson, Stockholm, N. Y.	1,141,000	1,115,000	10,000	59,000	2,325,000
S. L. Clark & Son, Parishville, N. Y.	5,000,000	1,000,000	500,000	350,000	6,850,000
Massena Lumber Co., Massena, N. Y.	.....	1,000,000	.....	.....	1,000,000
Norwood Lumber Co., Norwood, N. Y.	10,674,706	846,647	1,666,788	15,989	12,704,180
Watkins & Turner, Potsdam, N. Y.	18,450,000	50,000	500,000	.....	14,000,000
Clarkson Manufacturing Co., Potsdam, N. Y.	1,000,000	400,000	.....	50,000	1,450,000
Sherman Lumber Co., Potsdam, N. Y.	10,000,000	11,000,000	1,000,000	.....	12,000,000
Potsdam Lumber Co., Potsdam, N. Y.	9,915,540	.....	847,447	.....	10,762,987

W. W. Weed., Potsdam, N. Y.	600,000	250,000	150,000	.....	1,000,000
Buck's Bridge Co., Buck's Bridge, N. Y.	4,000,000	2,000,000	500,000	500,000	7,000,000
Canton Lumber Co., Canton, N. Y.	8,719,729	1,629,800	.....	.....	10,849,029
J. D. Grange, Canton, N. Y.	1,200,000	400,000	.....	.....	1,600,000
Oscar Runions, Grary's Mills, N. Y.	95,000	455,000	50,000	405,000	1,005,000
Weston, Dean & Aldrich, Gouverneur, N. Y.	9,189,053	6,914,964	669,811	.....	16,773,858
Starbuck & McCarty, Gouverneur, N. Y.	4,690,961	4,494,965	.....	.....	9,185,906
Post & Henderson, Jayville, N. Y.	2,263,048	2,148,269	825,947	118,896	4,855,660
W. G. Coffin, Oswegatchie, N. Y.	.....	.....	.....	600,000	600,000
John Irvin, Oswegatchie, N. Y.	1,000,000	750,000	50,000	20,000	1,820,000
William Roberts, Philadelphia, N. Y.	1,500,000	4,000,000	500,000	500,000	6,500,000
A. Kessler, Carthage, N. Y.	450,000	430,000	20,000	100,000	1,000,000
Yousey Brothers, Natural Bridge, N. Y.	225,000	1,410,000	108,000	65,689	1,808,689
Calvin V. Graves, Natural Bridge, N. Y.	250,000	1,000,000	100,000	**175,000	1,525,000
James W. Burns, Natural Bridge, N. Y.	300,000	800,000	200,000	††550,000	1,850,000
William Ingraham, Diana, N. Y.	100,000	500,000	100,000	100,000	800,000
Irving Snell, Harrisville, N. Y.	2,500,000	2,500,000	.....	.....	5,000,000
Remington Paper Co., Harrisville, N. Y.	1,500,000	500,000	.....	.....	2,000,000
S. N. Darby, Harrisville, N. Y.	60,000	80,000	25,000	281,000	446,000
Beaver River Lumber Co., Castorland, N. Y.	8,788,740	9,000,000	1,200,000	175,000	19,168,780
M. W. Van Amber, Naumberg, N. Y.	2,000,000	2,000,000	.....	.....	4,000,000
La Faves & Crumb, Belfort, N. Y.	500,000	1,500,000	.....	400,000	2,400,000
L. Crawford & Co., Chase's Lake, N. Y.	1,200,000	1,500,000	300,000	.....	3,000,000
Henry Abbey, Glendale, N. Y.	1,500,000	2,000,000	1,500,000	.....	5,000,000
G. H. P. Gould, Lyons Falls, N. Y.	8,970,789	1,835,426	184,748	.....	6,050,963
Charles W. Pratt, Port Leyden, N. Y.	††1,240,000	.....	.....	.....	1,240,000
Denton & Waterbury, Forestport, N. Y.	2,143,117	1,577,916	.....	.....	3,721,033
Forestport Lumber Co., Forestport, N. Y.	5,000,000	.....	.....	.....	5,000,000
Thomson & Pratt, McKeever, N. Y.	437,000	263,000	.....	60,000	750,000
Deimell & Snell, Herkimer, N. Y.	135,000	125,000	.....	750,000	1,000,000
Alfred Dolge, Dolgeville, N. Y.	5,491,252	.....	.....	378,040	5,769,292
J. C. Livingston & Co., Stratford, N. Y.	1,750,000	.....	.....	500,000	2,350,000
David Helderline, Stratford, N. Y.	1,263,207	.....	.....	1,282,979	1,545,186
Trenton Falls Lumber Co., Hinckley, N. Y.	10,291,324	.....	.....	.....	10,291,324

* Cherry and ash. † All second growth pine. ‡ Includes the cut of the mills on the Saranac river: Purdy's, Hanlon's, Hartwell's, Turner's, and Parsons'.
 § Including Parkeville Lumber Co. ¶ Includes 200,000 feet of cedar. ** Includes 75,000 feet of elm. †† Shipped
 ‡‡ In the round " as spars and pl'es. §§ Maple and birch for piano frames. || Mostly yellow birch.

AMOUNT OF LUMBER SAWED IN 1892 — (Concluded).

MILLS.	Spruce.	Hemlock.	Pine.	Hardwood.	Total feet.
Firman Ouderkirk, Beaver River, N. Y.	2,000,000	.....	.....	.....	2,000,000
William W. Knapp, Stratford, N. Y.	200,000	100,000	.....	200,000	500,000
Charles Gray, Gray, N. Y.	600,000	150,000	.....	75,000	825,000
Stephen Merchant, Saranac Lake, N. Y.	335,000	165,000	.....	.....	500,000
Wm. J. Gillespie, Bloomingdale, N. Y.	450,000	150,000	.....	.....	600,000
Sundry small mills, entire district	3,000,000	8,000,000	500,000	400,000	6,900,000
Totals	279,688,903	96,230,388	23,002,439	7,982,440	406,904,200

GREAT FOREST OF NORTHERN NEW YORK.

AMOUNT OF LUMBER SAWED IN 1893.

(In Feet, Board Measure.)

MILLS.	Spruce.	Hemlock.	Pine.	Hardwood.	Total feet.
Finch, Pruyn & Co., Glens Falls, N. Y.	17,527,861	4,587,190	221,071	*139,082	22,475,204
Morgan Lumber Co., Glens Falls, N. Y.	14,755,800	6,889,800	731,200	.....	21,874,800
George H. Freeman, Glens Falls, N. Y.	7,746,070	4,239,825	287,767	30,442	12,304,104
D. W. Sherman, Glens Falls, N. Y.	8,118,000	2,396,000	.....	.....	5,454,000
Kenyon & Baldwin, Glens Falls, N. Y.	8,500,000	1,500,000	1,000,000	*50,000	6,000,000
Thomsons, Douglas & Dix, Fort Miller, N. Y.	7,712,520	1,775,463	566,772	34,086	9,898,791
A. C. Emerson & Co., Warrensburg, N. Y.	350,000	1,500,000	200,000	.....	2,050,000
Baker Brothers, Plattsburg, N. Y.	7,600,000	450,000	2,000,000	.....	10,050,000
Ladd & Smallman, Clinton Mills, N. Y.	400,000	550,000	.....	50,000	1,000,000
A. B. Parmelee & Son, Malone, N. Y.	965,000	.....	.....	600,000	965,000
Scott G. Boyce, Malone, N. Y.	1,500,000	80,000	.....	75,000	2,150,000
Anson Hutchins, Dickinson Centre, N. Y.	100,000	.....	.....	.....	176,000
Shepard & Morse, Shanley, N. Y.	4,000,000	.....	.....	.....	4,000,000
Everton Lumber Co., Everton, N. Y.	8,000,000	300,000	600,000	.....	8,900,000
Santa Clara Lumber Co., Santa Clara, N. Y.	9,179,164	1,098,322	840,782	48,700	11,166,968
Ducey Lumber Co., Brandon, N. Y.	7,000,000	.....	8,000,000	.....	15,000,000
Hobson Lumber Co., Tupper Lake, N. Y.	1,500,000	.....	.....	.....	1,500,000
John Hurd, Tupper Lake, N. Y.	18,000,000	.....	.....	.....	18,000,000
Saranac Inn Co., Saranac Inn, N. Y.	1,125,000	187,500	187,500	.....	1,500,000
Stephen Merchant, Saranac Lake, N. Y.	865,000	165,000	.....	.....	1,030,000
Wm. J. Gillespie, Bloomingdale, N. Y.	865,000	135,000	.....	.....	1,000,000
Massena Lumber Co., Massena, N. Y.	.....	1,000,000	.....	.....	1,000,000
George N. Gibson, West Stockholm, N. Y.	496,000	615,000	100,000	60,000	1,211,000
S. S. L. Clark & Son, Parishville, N. Y.	5,000,000	1,000,000	500,000	350,000	6,850,000
Norwood Lumber Co., Norwood, N. Y.	10,002,704	101,504	1,161,260	5,862	11,270,880

* Ash and cherry. † All second growth pine. ‡ Includes the cut of all the mills on the Saranac river. § Including Parishville Lumber Co.

| Includes 30,000 feet of cedar.

AMOUNT OF LUMBER SAWED IN 1893 — (Continued).

MILLS.	Sp. ucs.	Hemlock.	Pine.	Hardwood.	Total feet.
Watkins & Turner, Potsdam, N. Y.	11,450,000	50,000	500,000	...	12,000,000
Clarkson Mfg. Co., Potsdam, N. Y.	1,000,000	400,000	...	50,000	1,450,000
Sherman Lumber Co., Potsdam, N. Y.	8,000,000	*2,200,000	1,200,000	...	11,400,000
Potsdam Lumber Co., Potsdam, N. Y.	9,287,654	...	464,829	...	9,752,483
W. W. Weed, Potsdam, N. Y.	8,000,000	250,000	750,000	...	4,000,000
Buck's Bridge Co., Buck's Bridge, N. Y.	8,500,000	1,040,000	500,000	...	5,000,000
Canton Lumber Co., Canton, N. Y.	5,500,000	2,000,000	1,000,000	...	8,500,000
J. D. Grange, Canton, N. Y.	600,000	300,000	...	...	900,000
Oscar Runions, Crary's Mills, N. Y.	95,000	455,000	50,000	405,000	1,005,000
Weston, Dean & Aldrich, Gouverneur, N. Y.	9,464,198	6,069,765	1,787,018	...	17,821,011
Starbuck & McCarty, Gouverneur, N. Y.	2,751,809	2,975,512	...	...	5,726,821
Young & Lindsay, South Colton, N. Y.	400,000	600,000	...	...	1,000,000
W. G. Coffin, Oswegatchie, N. Y. ....	...	...	...	400,000	400,000
John Irvin, Oswegatchie, N. Y.	1,000,000	1,000,000	...	850,000	2,850,000
William Roberts, Philadelphia, N. Y.	1,000,000	4,000,000	500,000	+500,000	6,000,000
A. Kessler, Carthage, N. Y.	985,000	965,000	25,000	50,000	2,025,000
Yousey Brothers, Natural Bridge, N. Y.	265,480	1,675,000	80,000	52,000	2,022,460
Calvin V. Graves, Natural Bridge, N. Y.	100,000	500,000	40,000	+50,000	690,000
James W. Burns, Natural Bridge, N. Y.	500,000	1,200,000	100,000	150,000	1,950,000
William Ingraham, Diana, N. Y.	200,000	300,000	100,000	50,000	650,000
C. K. Remington & Son, Harrisville, N. Y.	2,500,000	2,500,000	...	...	5,000,000
Remington Paper Co., Harrisville, N. Y.	2,000,000	200,000	...	...	2,200,000
S. N. Darby, Harrisville, N. Y.	30,000	20,000	15,000	145,000	210,000
Post & Henderson, Jayville, N. Y.	1,740,132	2,092,122	287,327	107,526	4,227,107
Beaver River Lumber Co., Castorland, N. Y.	7,100,000	7,093,910	1,100,000	175,000	15,468,910
M. W. Van Amber, Naumberg, N. Y.	1,750,000	1,750,000	...	...	3,500,000
La Favres & Crumb, Belfort, N. Y.	400,000	1,000,000	...	800,000	1,700,000
Le Roy Crawford, Chase's Lake, N. Y.	1,400,000	1,800,000	300,000	...	3,500,000
Henry Abbey, Glendale, N. Y.	2,000,000	1,300,000	2,000,000	...	5,300,000
G. H. P. Gould, Lyons Falls, N. Y.	2,339,858	1,470,744	191,944	...	4,002,544
Charles W. Pratt, Port Leyden, N. Y.	\$834,000	...	...	...	834,000

Denton & Waterbury, Forestport, N. Y.	2,152,388	1,144,921	.....	.....	8,377,804
Forestport Lumber Co., Forestport, N. Y.	4,000,000	.....	.....	.....	4,000,000
Firman Onderkirk, Beaver River, N. Y.	2,500,000	.....	800,000	.....	2,800,000
Thompson & Pratt, McKeever, N. Y.	188,000	70,000	.....	180,000	888,000
Deimell & Snell, Herkimer, N. Y.	300,000	200,000	.....	750,000	1,250,000
Alfred Dolge, Dolgeville, N. Y.	1,534,815	.....	.....	500,984	2,035,749
J. C. Livingston & Co., Stratford, N. Y.	2,000,000	.....	.....	700,000	2,700,000
David Heiterline, Stratford, N. Y.	1,107,694	268,076	6,722	170,746	1,553,238
William W. Knapp, Stratford, N. Y.	200,000	100,000	.....	200,000	500,000
Trenton Falls Lumber Co., Hincley, N. Y.	18,165,204	.....	.....	75,000	18,165,204
Charles Gray, Gray, N. Y.	600,000	150,000	.....	.....	825,000
Sundry small mills, entire district	2,500,000	3,000,000	200,000	400,000	6,100,000
Totals	241,531,824	77,910,654	27,844,222	7,718,828	355,050,528

* Include 600,000 feet of Cedar.

† Mostly ash.

‡ Include 25,000 feet basswood,

birch for piano frames.

§ Shipped in the round for spars and poles.

¶ Yellow birch.

| Maple and

Summary.

1890.*		Feet.
Spruce	210,270,932	
Hemlock	94,145,695	
Pine	15,438,163	
Hard wood	5,835,844	
Total	325,690,634	
1891.*		Feet.
Spruce	179,135,432	
Hemlock	77,789,833	
Pine	21,183,354	
Hard wood	8,601,974	
Total	286,710,593	
1892.		Feet.
Spruce	279,668,903	
Hemlock	96,290,388	
Pine	23,002,469	
Hard wood	7,992,440	
Total	406,954,200	
1893.		Feet.
Spruce	241,581,824	
Hemlock	77,910,654	
Pine	27,844,222	
Hard wood	7,713,828	
Total	355,050,528	
Spruce.		Feet.
1890	210,270,932	
1891	179,135,432	
1892	279,668,903	
1893	241,581,824	

* For detailed statistics showing list of saw-mills and their product for 1890 and 1891, see Annual Report of the Forest Commission for 1891.

	Hemlock.	Feet.
1890		94,145,695
1891		77,789,833
1892		96,290,388
1893		77,910,654

	Pine.	Feet.
1890		15,438,163
1891		21,183,354
1892		23,002,469
1893		27,844,222

	Hardwood.	Feet.
1890		5,835,844
1891		8,601,974
1892		7,992,440
1893		7,713,828

The production by districts for 1892, and 1893, was:

	1892.	Feet
Glens Falls district		114,226,236
St. Lawrence County		115,281,070
Franklin and Clinton Counties.....		75,010,627
Lewis and Jefferson Counties		61,784,432
Herkimer and Fulton Counties		31,751,835
At large		8,900,000

Total	406,954,200
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	1893.	Feet.
Glens Falls district		80,096,899
St. Lawrence County		105,864,252
Franklin and Clinton Counties		70,436,968
Lewis and Jefferson Counties		55,052,914
Herkimer and Fulton Counties		34,699,495
At large		8,900,000

Total	355,050,528
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The small production of the saw-mills in 1891, was due to the drought of that season. There was not water enough in the streams to drive the usual stock of logs, a large amount of which were left stranded on the river bars and along the banks. In some instances, where the whole drive had reached the mills, there was not water enough to saw the entire stock, the mills being shut down at times during the summer for lack of power.

In 1893, the logs which had been left in the streams the year before were driven to the booms in addition to the regular stock for that year, causing an increased production. By combining the output of the mills for 1892 and 1893, it will be seen that the average amount sawed was 346,832,396 feet, which is not far from the general yearly average.

With the figures for the hard wood there is included a small amount of bass wood and cedar, which could not be tabulated in separate columns for lack of space. Where any large amount was thus included with the hard wood, an explanatory footnote was inserted.

Some of the lumbermen cut balsam in small quantities, mixing it with their spruce, there being but little difference in the appearance and quality of the timber. Still, balsam is inferior to spruce for most purposes, and so is cut sparingly.

There are several shingle-mills, in or near the Adirondack woods, which use cedar for their stock, and which are not included in the preceding tables. There are also mills which consume some birch in the manufacture of excelsior, spool timber, and broom-handles; mills which use beech for tool-handles and carpenters' planes; and mills which consume maple in making shoe-lasts, all of which are included in the one item at the end of each list.

Consumption of Pulp Timber.

The State of New York leads all others in the wood-pulp industry. Of the 246 pulp-mills in the United States, eighty-three are in New York. Wisconsin comes next with thirty mills; Maine next, with twenty-nine; and then New Hampshire, with fourteen. The Empire State has not only the greatest number of mills, but it has the largest, some of them having plants which, in size and capacity, are unequalled both in the United States and Europe. The pulp-mill at Palmer's Falls, on the Upper Hudson, is said to be the largest ever built.

Of the eighty-three mills in New York, sixty-five obtain their supply of timber from the Adirondack woodlands. In view of the vast forest areas of other States it seems strange that New York should be the one to furnish the largest product of this class. In 1893, the timber cut for pulp-wood in the northern forest of our State, amounted to 92,135,707 feet, board measure.

While it is always a source of pride that a State should excel all others in any particular industry, it is doubtful whether, in this case, our citizens are to be congratulated. The methods employed at present in the cutting of pulp-timber are a serious menace to the welfare of our forests. The persistent removal of the small spruces used in this business threatens the extinction of our best merchantable species. At the same time, under a proper system the wood-pulp industry might become an important factor in a successful forest management, as it would, to a certain extent, afford a market for timber which would otherwise be lost or wasted.

There are two kinds of pulp-mills, mechanical and chemical. Of the sixty-five mills supplied from the Adirondack woods, fifty-six are mechanical, and nine chemical.* A mechanical mill

* For fuller information regarding the manufacture of wood-pulp see Annual Report of the Forest Commission for 1891.

is one in which the wood is reduced to pulp by grinding, the block being pressed against the face of large, vertical grind-stones. Some of the larger mills have from eighteen to thirty run of stone.

A chemical mill is one in which the wood, having been cut in small chips, is placed in huge iron tanks called "digesters," where it is reduced to pulp under the action of chemicals and steam. There are three chemical processes, the sulphite, sulphate, and soda process. In the mechanical process one cord of wood will make one ton of ground pulp, dry weight, or a trifle less. In the chemical process, two cords are consumed in making a ton of dry pulp or chemical fibre at it is called. Pulp made by the chemical process has, like rag pulp, a longer fibre, and is much more valuable than that made in the mechanical mills.

All the newspapers in the United States are printed on paper made from wood. The entire product of a large mill is required to supply a leading New York daily.

We acknowledge with pleasure the courtesy extended to us by the gentlemen connected with the various mills mentioned in the following list. With the figures furnished by them from their respective offices we are enabled to append here an accurate statement of the amount of timber consumed in this important industry.

GREAT FOREST OF NORTHERN NEW YORK

AMOUNT OF PULP TIMBER CUT IN 1892.

LOCATION OF MILL OR OFFICE.	Proprietors.	Number of cords.	Equivalent in feet, B. M.
Ballston Spa, N. Y.	George West.	* 3,000	1,500,000
Beaver Falls, N. Y.	James P. Lewis.	1,800	900,000
Black River, N. Y.	Black River Pulp Co.	800	400,000
Black River, N. Y.	Empire Pulp Co.	1,009	504,500
Black River, N. Y.	Jefferson Paper Co.	2,800	1,400,000
Brownville, N. Y.	Brownville Paper Co. ....	.....	100,000
Brownville, N. Y.	Globe Paper Co.	700	350,000
Brownville, N. Y.	Outterson Paper Co.	896	448,000
Cadyville, N. Y.	Saranac River Pulp Co.	4,000	2,000,000
Carthage, N. Y.	A. E. Maxwell.	550	275,000
Carthage, N. Y.	Henry Spicer & Sons.	1,200	600,000
Carthage, N. Y.	H. H. Mills.	800	150,000
Dexter, N. Y.	Jones & Hunter.	1,000	500,000

* Chemical mill.

AMOUNT OF PULP TIMBER CUT IN 1892—(Continued).

LOCATION OF MILL OR OFFICE.	Proprietors.	Number of cords.	Equivalent in feet, B M.
Dexter, N. Y.....	Dexter Sulphite Pulp Co..	* 10,000	5,000,000
Dexter, N. Y.....	Leonard, Gilmore & Co....	.....	500,000
Dexter, N. Y.....	St. Lawrence Paper Co....	600	300,000
Dexter, N. Y.....	Frontenac Paper Co.	2,000	1,000,000
Felt's Mills, N. Y.....	Taggart's Paper Co.	5,000	2,500,000
Fort Ann, N. Y.....	Kane's Falls Pulp Co.	700	350,000
Fort Edward, N. Y.....	Glens Falls Paper Mill Co..	....†	† 964,148
Forestport, N. Y.....	Wm. and James Barber....	600	300,000
Fullerville, N. Y.....	Keller Brothers	1,200	600,000
Fulton, N. Y.....	Fulton Paper Co.	1,400	700,000
Fulton, N. Y.....	Cataract Paper and Pulp Co.	800	400,000
Fulton, N. Y.....	Victoria Paper Mills Co. .	600	300,000
Fulton, N. Y.....	Oswego Falls Pulp Co.	2,512	1,256,000
Glens Falls, N. Y.....	Glens Falls Paper Mill Co..	.....	§ 4,324,000
Gouverneur, N. Y.....	Gouverneur Wood Pulp Co.	5,000	2,500,000
Great Bend, N. Y.....	Great Bend Paper Co.	887	443,500
Greig, N. Y.	Carter Pulp Mill	500	250,000
Hadley, N. Y.....	J. D. Mulrenan	520	260,000
Lyons Falls, N. Y.....	G. H. P. Gould.....	1,000	500,000
Lyons Falls, N. Y.....	Herkimer Paper Co.	4,059	2,029,500
Lyons Falls, N. Y.....	Moose River Paper Co.	1,200	600,000
Malone, N. Y.....	Adirondack Paper Co.	1,800	900,000
Mechanicville, N. Y.....	Hudson Power & Paper Co..	* 10,837	5,418,500
Norwood, N. Y.....	O. E. Martin	700	350,000
Oswegatchie, N. Y.....	Standard Pulp Co.	2,600	1,300,000
Palmer's Falls, N. Y.....	Hudson Pulp and Paper Co.	... †	† 10,743,000
Plattsburg, N. Y.....	Allen & Sherman	1,218	609,000
Potsdam, N. Y.....	Raquette River Paper Co..	† 7,000	3,500,000
Sandy Hill, N. Y.....	Sandy Hill Power Co. ....	.....	† 1,458,594
South Edwards, N. Y....	South Edwards Pulp Co....	1,650	825,000
Thomson's Mills, N. Y....	Thomson Pulp & Paper Co..	.....	** 2,058,800
Ticonderoga, N. Y.....	Essex Pulp and Paper Co..	3,000	1,500,000
Ticonderoga, N. Y.....	Ticonderoga Pulp Co.	3,416	1,708,000
Ticonderoga, N. Y.....	Lake George Paper Co.	700	350,000
Warrensburgh, N. Y.....	Schroon River Pulp Co....	260	130,000
Watertown, N. Y.....	Ontario Paper Co.	4,000	†† 2,000,000
Watertown, N. Y.....	Knowlton Brothers	1,000	500,000
Watertown, N. Y.....	H. Remington & Son	3,000	1,500,000
Watertown, N. Y.....	C. R. Remington & Son Co.	4,650	2,325,000
Watertown, N. Y.....	Remington Paper Co.	† 13,000	6,500,000
Willsborough, N. Y.....	N. Y. & Pennsylvania Co..	§§ 6,000	3,000,000
Total.....	.....	.....	80,918,537

* Chemical mill. † Chemical and mechanical. ‡ A large mill; nearly all its timber supply comes from Canada. § Reported as 30,968 standard or market logs. ¶ Reported as 76,306 standard or market logs. ¶ Reported as 10,196 markets. ** Reported as 14,413 markets. †† Not including timber received from Canada. §§ All poplar and basswood; this mill uses the chemical soda process.

GREAT FOREST OF NORTHERN NEW YORK.

AMOUNT OF PULP TIMBER CUT IN 1893.

LOCATION OF MILL OR OFFICE.	Proprietors.	No. of cords.	Equivalent in feet, B. M.
Ausable Chasm, N. Y...	Alice Falls Pulp Co....	4,980	2,490,000
Ballston Spa, N. Y.....	George West.....	*3,000	1,500,000
Beaver Falls, N. Y.....	James P. Lewis.....	1,100	550,000
Black River, N. Y.....	Black River Pulp Co.....	800	400,000
Black River, N. Y.....	Empire Pulp Co.....	510	255,000
Black River, N. Y.....	Jefferson Paper Co.....	2,800	1,400,000
Brownville, N. Y.....	Brownville Paper Co.....	787	787,000
Brownville, N. Y.....	Globe Paper Co.....	700	350,000
Brownville, N. Y.....	Outterson Paper Co.....	950	475,000
Cadyville, N. Y.....	Saranac River Pulp Co. ...	5,000	2,500,000
Canton, N. Y.....	High Falls Sulphite Co. ...	*9,000	4,500,000
Carthage, N. Y.....	A. E. Maxwell.....	450	225,000
Carthage, N. Y.....	Henry Spicer & Son.....	1,200	600,000
Carthage, N. Y.....	H. H. Mills.....	200	100,000
Colton, N. Y.....	Raquette River Pulp Co....	4,000	2,000,000
Dexter, N. Y.....	Jones & Hunter.....	1,000	500,000
Dexter, N. Y.....	Dexter Sulphite Pulp Co....	11,254	5,627,000
Dexter, N. Y.....	Leonard, Gilmore & Co.....	500	500,000
Dexter, N. Y.....	St. Lawrence Paper Co.....	1,000	500,000
Dexter, N. Y.....	Frontenac Paper Co.....	2,000	1,000,000
Felt's Mills, N. Y.....	Taggart's Paper Co.....	5,000	2,500,000
Forestport, N. Y.....	Philip McGuire.....	800	400,000
Fort Ann, N. Y.....	Kane's Falls Pulp Co.	700	350,000
Fort Edward, N. Y.....	Glens Falls Paper Mill Co. ...	†	‡358,784
Fullerville, N. Y.....	Keller Brothers.....	1,000	500,000
Fowlerville, N. Y.....	Fonda Lake Paper Co. ...	2,000	1,000,000
Fulton, N. Y.....	Fulton Paper Co.....	1,500	750,000
Fulton, N. Y.....	Cataract Paper and Pulp Co.	800	400,000
Fulton, N. Y.....	Victoria Paper Mills Co....	600	300,000
Fulton, N. Y.....	Oswego Falls Pulp Co.....	3,883	1,941,500
Glens Falls, N. Y.	Glens Falls Paper Mill Co. ...	§4,654,571	
Gouverneur, N. Y.....	Gouverneur Wood Pulp Co.	5,000	2,500,000
Great Bend, N. Y.....	Great Bend Paper Co.....	1,280	640,000
Greig, N. Y.....	Carter Pulp Mill.....	500	250,000
Hadley, N. Y.....	J. D. Mulrenan.....	1,040	520,000
Lyonsdale, N. Y.....	Lyonsdale Paper Mfg. Co....	900	450,000
Lyons Falls, N. Y.....	G. H. P. Gould.....	1,000	500,000
Lyons Falls, N. Y.....	Herkimer Paper Co.....	4,182	2,091,000
Lyons Falls, N. Y.....	Moose River Paper Co.....	1,400	700,000
Malone, N. Y.....	Adirondack Pulp Co.....	1,600	800,000
Mechanicville, N. Y. ...	Hudson Power & Paper Co.	*11,802	5,901,000
Norwood, N. Y.....	O. E. Martin.....	1,200	600,000
Oswegatchie, N. Y.....	Standard Pulp Co.....	8,000	4,000,000
Palmer's Falls, N. Y.....	Hudson Pulp and Paper Co.	†	‡5,914,000
Plattsburg, N. Y.....	Allen & Sherman.....	1,076	538,000
Plattsburg, N. Y.....	Treadwell Pulp & Paper Co.	5,000	2,500,000
Potsdam, N. Y.....	Raquette River Paper Co....	†7,000	3,500,000
Sandy Hill, N. Y.....	Sandy Hill Power Co.....	††1,705,402	
South Edwards, N. Y.....	South Edwards Pulp Co....	1,650	825,000
Thomson's Mills, N. Y.....	Thomson Pulp & Paper Co....	**1,825,000	

* Chemical mill. † Chemical and mechanical. ‡ A large mill; but its supply of timber is nearly all obtained in Canada. § Reported as 32,582 markets. ¶ Reported as 41,400 markets. †† Reported as 11,987 markets. ** Reported as 12,777 markets.

AMOUNT OF PULP TIMBER CUT IN 1893—(Continued).

LOCATION OF MILL OR OFFICE.	Proprietors.	No. of cords.	Equivalent in feet, B. M.
Ticonderoga, N. Y.	Essex Pulp and Paper Co..	8,000	1,500,000
Ticonderoga, N. Y.	Ticonderoga Pulp Co.	*4,786	2,368,000
Ticonderoga, N. Y.	Lake George Paper Co. . .	575	287,500
Warrensburgh, N. Y.	Schroon River Pulp Co.	524	262,000
Watertown, N. Y.	H. Remington & Son Co. . .	8,000	1,500,000
Watertown, N. Y.	Remington Paper Co.	†14,000	7,000,000
Watertown, N. Y.	C. L. Remington & Son Co.	4,850	2,425,000
Watertown, N. Y.	Ontario Paper Co.	5,000	2,500,000
Watertown, N. Y.	Knowlton Brothers.	1,000	500,000
Willsborough, N. Y.	N. Y. & Pennsylvania Co..	‡3,000	1,500,000
Total. ....	.....	.....	92,185,707

Summary.

Year.		Feet, B. M.
1891§	Pulp-timber consumed	69,274,283
1892	do do	80,918,537
1893	do do	92,135,707

These figures indicate an increase in the amount of timber taken annually from the Adirondack forests for the manufacture of wood-pulp. Five new mills are building which will be ready to start within the coming year, and further increase the consumption of small spruce.

Nearly all the timber used in the pulp-mills is spruce, and mostly sapling trees at that. The mechanical mills use no other kind of timber now, although at one time they used various other species. The chemical mills use, in addition to spruce, some balsam; also hemlock, tamarack, and second-growth pine in small quantities. The chemical mills can use certain species which the mechanical mills can not. Balsam, for instance, contains so much resinous matter that it can not be used in a mechanical mill, as it stiffens the screens with gum. But this species, which is not much inferior in fiber to spruce, can be utilized in the digesters of a chemical mill without difficulty.

* Chemical mill. † Chemical and mechanical. ‡ Poplar and basswood; chemical soda process.
§ For detailed statistics regarding consumption of pulp timber in 1891, see Annual Report of the Forest Commission for that year.

Two of the chemical mills use poplar and basswood, reducing the material to pulp by the soda process. But the use of poplar in pulp manufacturing is decreasing rapidly, and will probably be discontinued entirely. The mechanical mills have already discarded it, although within a few years it formed twenty-five per cent of their supply.

Some of the larger mills in New York obtain their supply of pulp-timber from Canada; hence the figures in the preceding tables, which show the consumption of Adirondack timber only, may be no indication of the capacity and production of certain mills. A few mills, which do not appear on the list, were omitted because they were idle during the period covered by the statistics. In one instance a mill was shut down for repairs; in another, one remained idle owing to a change of ownership; and one mill was destroyed by fire.

The most of the mills in making their returns reported the timber used by them in cords, that being the measure used in buying their stock; and a few of the mills on the Hudson, it will be noticed, made their report in market logs,* this being the system of measurement in use on that river. In reducing these quantities to feet, two cords of pulp-wood were estimated as equivalent to one thousand feet of logs, Doyle's rule; and, where the report was made in standard or market logs, we estimated seven markets to the thousand feet. The usual rule in estimating market logs is to assume that five markets are equivalent to a thousand feet; but, while such an estimate may hold good in an ordinary run of sawing timber, it is not accurate when applied to the very small logs used for pulp-mill stock. We have, accordingly, in the preceding tables, used the ratio of seven markets to a thousand feet in converting standard or market logs into their equivalent log measure.

We explain our method of computing the number of feet consumed annually, so that any one who may differ from us as to the method of calculation can, by using the number of cords or markets reported, arrive at other and, perhaps, more satisfactory figures.

*A market log is thirteen feet long, nineteen inches in diameter at the small end, and contains, Doyle's rule, 188 feet.

FOREST AND PARK.



P R E F A C E .

There was such a large demand for the report of the Forest Commission for 1891, that it soon became impossible to supply the numerous calls for copies of that work. Since the edition was distributed there have been so many requests from members of the Legislature for copies that we have deemed it advisable to reprint that part of the report giving a description of the various localities in the Adirondacks.

In reprinting this article, we have availed ourselves of the opportunity to make several additions to the text, and to include considerable information which has been collected in the meanwhile. The views with which it is illustrated are entirely different from those used in the former report, but they will be found, we trust, equally beautiful and interesting.





8. B. Stoddard, Photo.

AN ADIRONDACK ROADSIDE.

FOREST AND PARK.

In addition to the forestry question proper, the Commission has been called upon to consider many points growing out of the rapidly increasing demand for what is termed a State Park. The agitation of the Park question is widespread, and forestry matters have been largely subordinated to it, so far as public interest is concerned. Fortunately the two movements have one important aim in common—that of acquiring possession of the Adirondack wilderness for a public domain. Whatever difference of opinion may exist as to the methods of timber-cutting, the harvesting of matured trees and the various details connected with forest management, the friends and promoters of both projects agree perfectly on the importance of first and immediately securing possession in fee of the territory. Although the organization and existence of this Bureau is due solely to the pioneers and friends of the forestry movement, and to their persistent and successful efforts in arousing public opinion, we must also acknowledge the co-operation and assistance of the large number of citizens who are interested in the establishment of the proposed Park.

In view of the great number of people who are solicitous about the welfare of this region, many of whom have but little or no acquaintance with it, we deem it advisable to embody in this report some information regarding the various localities whose attractions have made the Adirondacks famous and enlisted so many zealous adherents in the movement for a State Park. In making this special report on the localities described, we have endeavored to omit everything which might savor of a guide-book; and for this reason have avoided rhetorical descriptions of scenery, and refrained from any mention which might be con-

strued as an advertisement of private interests. We have aimed rather to call attention to general features, and to discuss incidentally certain matters of interest which are closely connected with the forestry outlook and the Park question. Some reproductions of photographs have been inserted, hoping thereby to more readily enlist public attention, and at the same time to better illustrate the points under discussion.

The boundaries of the proposed Park have already been laid down, or outlined in a general manner. With the exception of their extension westward to the Herkimer County line, and northward four miles farther, no other change has been made. The territory having been substantially agreed upon by all interested, it remains to describe in a general way the more prominent localities and the attractions which they offer.

THE ADIRONDACK PLATEAU.

By way of introduction, some information as to the general characteristics and principal features of the plateau covered by the Great Forest may be of interest.

The term Adirondack Plateau has been in common use to designate the territory in northeastern New York, which lies between Lake Champlain on the east, and the valley of the Black River on the west, and which stretches northward from the Mohawk Valley to the farming regions of the St. Lawrence. But the Great Forest occupies only the central part of the territory thus described, as will be seen from the map accompanying our report of 1891, on which the outlines of the main forest are plainly defined. Its eastern boundary coincides closely with a line drawn through Keene Valley, and thence along the valleys of the Schroon River and Upper Hudson. Its southern boundary is, for the most part, identical with that of Hamilton County, and the town of Wilmurt, in Herkimer County, although extending, in some places, into Fulton. On the west, it is indicated by the county line between Lewis and Herkimer. Its northern boundary runs in an irregular line from a point near Harrisville, on the Lewis and St. Lawrence County line, to the Upper Chateaugay Lake, which is situated near the county line between

Franklin and Clinton. The territory thus roughly outlined contains 3,588,803 acres, an area greater than that of the State of Connecticut, and of which 3,280,717 acres are covered with dense forests. Within this area lies the proposed Park, its boundaries coinciding closely with those of the Great Forest on the east, south, and west. On the north the Park line does not extend so far, owing to the broken condition of the forest, resulting from the encroachments of agriculture, railroads, lumbering operations, and fires.

This forest is known by different names. By the people of the Mohawk Valley it is always alluded to as the North Woods; the people of the St. Lawrence Region speak of it as the South Woods; the old people of the past generation always spoke of it as the Shatagee (Chateaugay) Woods; the inhabitants of the Black River Valley generally call it John Brown's Tract, meaning not only the large patent known to surveyors by that specific name, but the entire wilderness; while the settlers around its borders call it by the correct but indefinite name of "The Back Woods." Within a few years the term "Adirondacks" has come into frequent use; but, as the Adirondack Mountains occupy only the eastern third of the territory, this favorite designation has been criticised as entirely too inaccurate. For these reasons the Commission favors the title, "The Great Forest," claiming no originality, however, as this name is freely used by some of the earliest and best writers on this region. In geological discussions, the term Adirondack Plateau seems to be a proper one, for the same reason that the distant river of the St. Lawrence has conferred its name upon the rocky strata whose upheaval forms the Adirondack Range.

The origin of the name Adirondack is a somewhat curious one. Some of the Algonquin tribes belonging to the valleys of the St. Lawrence and Saguenay, having been defeated by the Iroquois, and driven from their hunting grounds, were often forced by the long northern winters to subsist for days upon the buds and bark of trees. Hence, their old time enemies of the Five Nations called them in derision *Ad-i-ron-dacks*,* or "tree eaters." It is

* From the Iroquois, *Ha-des* "they eat," and *Ge-ren-dah*, "trees." The French dropping the *h*, wrote the word *A-di-ron-dack*.

stated that this Iroquois name of an Algonquin tribe was first given, by Prof. Emmons, to the principal mountain chain of the wilderness, although now, by common consent, applied to its entire mountain system.

The Adirondack Plateau has a general elevation of about 2,000 feet above the level of the sea, and is traversed by five distinct mountain ranges, with well-defined intervening valleys. Over 1,200 lakes and mountain ponds are scattered throughout its area,* while from its central watershed twenty rivers diverge in every direction.

As the question of altitude is a matter of discussion in most every locality in the Adirondacks, we append here a table showing the elevation of each above the sea, as determined by the State Survey and other authorities.

* The large map recently issued by the Forest Commission shows 1,345 lakes and ponds within the region of the Great Forest. E. B. Wallace, in his *Adirondack Guide*, makes special mention of 1,200, giving name, size and locality of each. There are 20 Long Ponds, 19 Mud Ponds, 16 Clear Ponds, 10 Round Ponds and a dozen or more, each, of Bear, Otter, Deer, Eagle, and Moose Ponds, not including the numerous lakes of the same name.

TABLE OF ALTITUDES IN THE ADIRONDACK REGION.

MOUNTAINS.

NAME.	County.	Feet.
Ampersand Mountain.....	Franklin	8,432
Averill Peak.....	Clinton	8,700
Baldface Mountain.....	Hamilton	8,903
Bald Mountain (Crown Point).....	Essex	2,802
Bald Peak (Moriah).....	Essex	2,120
Balm of Gilead, or South Mountain	Warren	1,958
Bartlett Mountain.....	Essex	8,715
Bartlett (west shoulder on Panther Gorge).....	Essex	2,785
Basin Mountain.....	Essex	4,905
Black Mountain.....	Washington	2,661
Blue Mountain.....	Hamilton	8,762
Blue Mountain.....	Franklin	2,532
Boot Bay Mountain.....	Franklin	2,531
Boot Bay Mountain (North Peak).....	Franklin	2,400
Boquet.....	Essex	1,500
Boreas.....	Essex	3,726
Bullwagga	Essex	1,260
Burnt Mountain.....	Hamilton	2,121
Camel's Hump.....	Essex	8,548
Catamount, or Thi-pac Mountain	Clinton	8,128
Cat Mountain.....	St. Lawrence	2,336
Cobble Hill	Essex	1,936
Crain's Mountain.....	Warren	8,254
DeBar.....	Franklin	8,011
Devil's Ear	Hamilton	8,908
Discovery.....	Essex	1,532
Discovery (Little).....	Essex	1,375
Giant of the Valley.....	Essex	4,580
Giant's Basin.....	Essex	2,253
Gore Mountain	Warren	8,589
Gothic.....	Essex	4,744
Graves.....	St. Lawrence	2,345
Gray's Peak	Essex	4,902
Hoffman	Essex	3,727
Holmes' Hill.....	Hamilton	2,121
Hopkins' Peak.....	Essex	8,136
Hurricane	Essex	8,763
Indian Face (Ausable Pond).....	Essex	2,536
Indian Pass (top of precipice on Wallface).....	Essex	3,870
Jerseyfield.....	Herkimer	3,323
Long Pond Mountain	Hamilton	2,268
Lyon.....	Clinton	3,809
Long Tom (Silver Lake).....	St. Lawrence	2,604
Macomb.....	Essex	4,371
McGregor.....	Saratoga	1,200
McKenzie.....	Essex	3,789
Matumbia	St. Lawrence	2,500
Mt. Andrew	Essex	8,216
Mt. Clinton (South McIntyre).....	Essex	4,937
Mt. Colden	Essex	4,758
Mt. Colvin or Sabel	Essex	4,142

TABLE OF ALTITUDES — MOUNTAINS — (Continued).

NAME.	County.	Feet.
Mt. Dix.....	Essex	4,916
Mt. Haystack.....	Essex	4,918
Mt. McIntyre.....	Essex	5,112
Mt. Marcy (Tahawus).....	Essex	5,344
Mt. Maxham.....	Warren	2,510
Mt. Redfield.....	Essex	4,688
Mt. Santanoni (St. Anthony).....	Essex	4,644
Mt. Seward.....	Franklin	4,884
Mt. Seymour.....	Franklin	8,928
Mt. Skylight.....	Essex	4,889
Mt. St. Louis.....	Herkimer	2,295
Nipple Top.....	Essex	4,684
Noon-Mark.....	Essex	3,558
North River Mountain.....	Essex	3,758
Norway, or Terry.....	Clinton.....	2,666
Owl's Head.....	Hamilton	2,825
Panther Gorge.....	Essex	3,853
Partridge Hill (summit).....	Essex	1,664
Partridge Hill (foot).....	Essex	995
Poke-a-Moonshine.....	Essex	2,171
Potash Kettle.....	Warren	1,735
Prospect Hill.....	Essex	1,142
Ragged.....	Essex	4,163
Rand Hill.....	Clinton.....	1,307
Raven.....	Essex	1,932
Rift Hill (Lake Pleasant).....	Hamilton	2,141
Round Mountain Notch.....	Essex	2,546
Rustic Lodge (Whiteface Mountain).....	Essex	4,116
Saddle Back.....	Essex	4,586
Silver Lake Mountain.....	St. Lawrence.....	2,604
Smith's Ledge, or Pratt Mountain.....	Hamilton	2,273
Snowy Mountain.....	Hamilton	3,903
South McIntyre, or Mt. Iroquois.....	Essex	4,937
South Mountain (Balm of Gilead).....	Warren	1,953
Speculator.....	Hamilton	3,041
Spring on Ampersand Mountain.....	Franklin	2,966
Spring on Whiteface (Lake Placid side).....	Essex	2,817
St. Regis.....	Franklin	2,888
Tyrrel's Lake (Blue mountain).....	Hamilton	1,900
Wallface (top of mountain).....	Essex	3,893
Wallface (foot of mountain).....	Essex	2,367
Wallface (greatest height of precipice).....	Essex	1,355
Whiteface.....	Essex	4,871
Wood Hill (Elizabethtown).....	Essex	1,151

LAKES, PONDS AND STREAMS.

Albany or Nehasane Lake.....	Hamilton	1,704
Alvord Lake.....	Hamilton	2,361
Ampersand Pond.....	Franklin	2,078
Ansable Lake, Lower.....	Essex	1,959
Ansable Lake, Upper.....	Essex	1,993
Ansable River (Beede's).....	Essex	1,089
Ansable River (Shaw's Bridge).....	Essex	972

TABLE OF ALTITUDES — LAKES, PONDS AND STREAMS — (Continued).

NAME.	County.	Feet.
Ausable River (Keene Village).....	Essex	818
Ausable River (North Elba Bridge).....	Essex	1,676
Avalanche Lake	Essex	2,863
Barnum or Gilman Pond.....	Hamilton	1,706
Beaver Lake	Lewis	1,485
Belden Pond	Hamilton	1,568
Black River (Lock 109).....	Lewis	738
Black Creek (Watson Road).....	Lewis	1,327
Blue Mountain Lake.....	Hamilton	1,801
Bog River (junction with Tupper stream)	St. Lawrence	1,578
Bog River Falls (head).....	St. Lawrence	1,575
Bog River Falls (foot).....	St. Lawrence	1,552
Bog Lake.....	Hamilton	1,755
Boreas Pond.....	Essex	1,973
Boquet River (Upland Valley).....	Essex	2,425
Boquet River (at Elizabethtown).....	Essex	543
Boquet River (Jackson Fork Bridge).....	Essex	759
Brandreth Lake	Hamilton	1,890
Calamity Pond	Essex	2,679
Camus Pond.....	Essex	1,991
Canada Lake (Little West).....	Hamilton	2,323
Canada Lake (Great West).....	Hamilton	2,348
Catlin Lake	Hamilton	1,600
Cedar Lakes.....	Hamilton	2,529
Cedar River Falls.....	Hamilton	2,135
Cedar River Settlement.....	Hamilton	1,706
Cedar River (mouth).....	Essex	1,454
Chain Lakes(outlet).....	Hamilton	1,531
Chain Ponds (Bog River).....	St. Lawrence	1,736
Chapel Pond.....	Essex	1,602
Charley Pond(near Little Tupper)	Hamilton	1,777
Chazy Lake	Clinton	1,500
Chubb River (Saranac Road).....	Essex	1,728
Chubb River (White's Mill).....	Essex	1,714
Clear Lake (Red Horse Chain).....	Herkimer	2,005
Clear Pond (North Elba).....	Essex	2,166
Clear Pond (Long Lake).....	Hamilton	1,691
Clear Pond, Big (Upper Saranac Waters).....	Franklin	1,615
Clear Pond (near Elk Lake).....	Essex	1,911
Colby Lake.....	Franklin	1,559
Corey Pond	Franklin	1,589
Cow Horn Pond	St. Lawrence	1,772
Cranberry Lake	St. Lawrence	1,540
Crooked Lake	Herkimer	2,022
Crystal Creek (crossing road at No. 4).....	Lewis	939
Crystal Lake (Oswegatchie)	St. Lawrence	1,663
Crystal Lake	Lewis	1,259
Deer Pond	Hamilton	1,993
Dyke Falls	Essex	2,788
Eagle Lake.....	Hamilton	1,800
Edmunds Pond (Upper*).....	Essex	2,038
Edmunds Pond (Lower*).....	Essex	2,032
Echo Lake	Hamilton	1,714
Elk Lake.....	Essex	1,986

* Cascade Lakes.

TABLE OF ALTITUDES — LAKES, PONDS AND STREAMS — (Continued).

NAME	County.	Feet.
Evergreen Pond	Hamilton	1,990
Forked Lake	Hamilton	1,758
Fourth Pond (Bog River).....	St. Lawrence.....	1,756
Fishing Brook.....	Hamilton	1,569
Fulton Chain, First Lake.....	Herkimer	1,684
Second Lake	Herkimer	1,685
Third Lake	Herkimer	1,686
Fourth Lake.....	Herkimer	1,687
Fifth Lake	Hamilton	1,691
Sixth Lake	Hamilton	1,760
Seventh Lake.....	Hamilton	1,762
Eighth Lake	Hamilton	1,808
Grass Pond.....	St. Lawrence.....	1,750
Grasse River (Ford).....	St. Lawrence.....	1,452
Graves Pond	St. Lawrence.....	1,795
Gull Lake	Herkimer	2,018
Gull Pond	Herkimer	1,907
Harrington Pond.....	Hamilton	1,779
Harris Lake	Essex	1,556
Hitchins' Pond	St. Lawrence.....	1,738
Horseshoe Pond	St. Lawrence.....	1,712
Hudson River (Tahawus Bridge).....	Essex	1,717
Indian Lake.....	Hamilton	1,705
Jock's or Honnedaga Lake.....	Herkimer	2,187
Lake Champlain.....	.....	96
Lake Clear	Herkimer	2,187
Lake Colden	Essex	2,764
Lake Colvin.....	St. Lawrence.....	1,990
Lake Francis.....	Lewis	1,457
Lake George	Warren and Essex..	819
Lake Henderson.....	Essex	1,814
Lake Luzerne	Warren	625
Lake Placid	Essex	1,863
Lake Pleasant.....	Hamilton	1,706
Lake Sanford	Essex	1,728
Lake Tear-of-the-Clouds	Essex	4,321
Lake Tear (Summit of Notch).....	Essex	4,355
Lewey Lake	Hamilton	1,738
Lilly-Pad Pond.....	Hamilton	1,597
Long Lake	Hamilton	1,630
Long Lake (Catlin waters).....	Hamilton	1,600
Long Pond (Oregon).....	Hamilton	1,960
Loon Lake (Beaver River).....	Herkimer	1,668
Lost Lake (Oswegatchie).....	St. Lawrence.....	1,761
Marcy Brook (Panther Gorge).....	Essex	8,840
Mason Lake	Hamilton	1,860
Minnow Pond (near Blue Mountain).....	Hamilton	2,131
Mirror Lake	Essex	1,859
Moose Lake, Big.....	Ham. and Herkimer	1,787
Moose Lake, Little.....	Herkimer	1,772
Moose Lake, Military Road	Hamilton	2,239
Moss Lake	Essex	4,812
Mud Lake (Bog River).....	St. Law. and Herk.	1,745
Mud Lake (Woodhull Reservoir).....	Lewis	1,799
Mud Pond (Blue Mt.).....	Hamilton	1,968

TABLE OF ALTITUDES—LAKES, PONDS AND STREAMS—(Continued).

NAME.	County.	Feet.
Newcomb Lake	Essex	1,698
Nigger Lake (Red Horse chain)	Herkimer	1,842
One Acre Pond (Paul Smith's)	Franklin	1,644
Ord Falls	Essex	1,551
Osgood Pond	Franklin	1,659
Otter Lake (Arietta)	Hamilton	2,286
Otter Pond	St. Lawrence	1,959
Paul Smith's Reservoir	Franklin	1,646
Piseco Lake	Hamilton	1,648
Preston Pond (Upper)	Essex	2,161
Puffer Pond	Hamilton	2,229
Raquette Lake	Hamilton	1,774
Raquette River	Franklin	1,612
Red Horse Chain	Herkimer	1,756
Rich Lake (Catlin Chain)	Essex	1,568
Rock Lake (Rock River)	Hamilton	1,765
Round Lake (of Big Brook)	Hamilton	1,707
Round Lake (Middle Saranac)	Franklin	1,538
Round Pond (Catlin Chain)	Hamilton	1,635
Round Pond (Little Tupper Lake)	Hamilton	1,720
Ragged Pond	Franklin	1,594
Sacandaga River (Mouth of)	Saratoga	560
Saranac Lake, Lower	Franklin	1,535
Saranac Lake, Middle	Franklin	1,538
Saranac Lake, Upper	Franklin	1,573
Saranac River (above Harrietstown Dam)	Franklin	1,529
Salmon Lake (Red Horse Chain)	Herkimer	1,756
Salmon Pond (near Long Lake)	Hamilton	2,080
Sand Lake (Woodhull Reservoir)	Herkimer	1,793
Schroon Lake	Warren	806
Scott's Pond, No. 1	Essex	8,091
Scott's Pond, No. 2	Essex	8,168
Second Lake (Bog River)	St. Lawrence	1,786
Silver Lake	St. Lawrence	1,983
South Branch Beaver River (Carthage Road) ..	Herkimer	1,669
South Pond	Hamilton	1,769
Smith's Lake or Lake Lila	Hamilton	1,725
Spectacle Ponds	Franklin	1,643
Spitfire Pond	Franklin	1,623
Spring Pond (Bog River)	St. Lawrence	1,809
Spruce Lake	Hamilton	2,358
Stillwater Pond (Beaver River)	Herkimer	1,656
Stony Creek Pond	Franklin	1,549
Stony Pond	Hamilton	1,714
St. Regis Lake, Upper	Franklin	1,623
St. Regis Lake, Lower	Franklin	1,623
Taylor Pond	Clinton	1,659
Thayer's or Aurora Lake	Hamilton	1,792
Third Pond (Bog River)	St. Lawrence	1,737
Thirteenth Pond	Hamilton	1,953
Three Pound Pond	St. Lawrence	1,802
Tupper Lake, Big	Ham'n and St. Law. ..	1,546
Tupper Lake, Little	Hamilton	1,720

TABLE OF ALTITUDES — LAKES, PONDS AND STREAMS — (*Continued*).

NAME.	County.	Feet.
Utwana Lake	Hamilton	1,800
Wardwell's Pond	Herkimer	1,656
White Pond (Oswegatchie)	Herkimer	1,687
Woodhull Reservoir	Herkimer	1,854
Wyman Lake	Herkimer	2,187

SUNDRY LOCALITIES.

Adirondack Village	Essex	1,789
Aiden Lair	Essex	1,628
Artist's Falls	Essex	1,687
Ausable Forks	Essex	550
Ballston Spa	Saratoga	277
Bartlett Carry	Franklin	1,548
Beach's Bridge	Lewis	755
Beaver Meadow (Spruce Lake)	Hamilton	2,220
Boonville	Oneida	1,124
Boreas Pass	Essex	2,019
Brewster	Essex	1,981
Cadyville	Clinton	734
Caribou Pass	Essex	8,662
Carthage	Jefferson	728
Cliff Mountain Pass	Essex	8,355
Corey's (Indian Carry)	Franklin	1,618
Cole's Hotel (Cedar River)	Hamilton	1,686
East Moriah	Essex	790
Elizabethtown (Upper Plateau)	Essex	598
Fairy Ladder Falls	Essex	8,111
Fenton's (Beaver River)	Lewis	1,571
Freeman's Home (School House)	Essex	2,066
Gennet's (Peasleville)	Clinton	1,821
Gill Brook Flume	Essex	1,561
Glens Falls Feeder Dam (top of coping)	Warren	290
Great Plains	St. Lawrence	1,687
Hadley	Saratoga	686
Harrietstown	Franklin	1,541
Hope Centre	Hamilton	768
Hunter's Pass	Essex	8,247
Huntsville	Hamilton	697
Indian Pass	Essex	2,884
Iron Works, Upper (near furnace)	Essex	1,789
Jessup's Landing (Hudson River)	Saratoga	562
Jessup's River (State road)	Hamilton	1,768
Jessup's River (Otter Creek)	Hamilton	1,892
John's Brook (Road Crossing)	Essex	1,010
John Brown's Grave	Essex	1,857
Keene Valley (Dibble's)	Essex	1,036
Keene Valley (Beede's old house)	Essex	1,800
Keene Valley (St. Hubert's Inn)	Essex	1,860
Keene Valley (Phelps's)	Essex	1,058
Keene Valley (Holt's)	Essex	1,000
Keene Valley (Washburn's)	Essex	1,040
Keene Valley (Tredo's)	Essex	1,048
Keene Valley (Shaw Bridge)	Essex	968
Keene Valley (Foot)	Essex	995
Keene Valley (Head)	Essex	1,859

TABLE OF ALTITUDES — SUNDRY LOCALITIES — (Continued).

NAME.	County.	Feet.
Keene Village	Essex	854
Lawrenceville	St. Lawrence	428
Lowville	Lewis	779
Lyons Falls	Lewis	840
Lyons (North Elba P. O.)	Essex	1,820
Malone	Franklin	696
Marcy Station (Utica & Black River R. R.)	Oneida	582
Marcy (timber line on)	Essex	4,901
McBride Place (Raquette River)	Franklin	1,573
Mineville	Essex	1,374
Moody	Franklin	1,628
North Branch Reservoir	Herkimer	1,821
North Elba Bridge.	Essex	1,686
North Lawrence	St. Lawrence	818
North River (Newcomb Bridge)	Essex	1,556
Northville Tannery	Fulton	782
Ogdensburg	St. Lawrence	242
Old Forge	Herkimer	1,684
Oulaska Pass	Franklin	8,086
Panther Gorge	Essex	8,858
Passenger's	Lewis	771
Petrie's Corners	Lewis	971
Plains of Abraham	Essex	1,621
Pork Camp (Marcy trail)	Essex	2,288
Port Leyden	Lewis	892
Pottersville	Warren	832
Remsen	Oneida	1,181
Rock River Dam	Hamilton	1,779
Root's (Schroon River)	Essex	870
Saranac Inn	Franklin	1,592
Santanoni Camp	Essex	8,045
Saratoga Springs	Saratoga	806
Sharp's (Lowville & No. 4 Road)	Lewis	971
Stevens House (Lake Placid)	Essex	1,967
Steuben Corners	Oneida	1,275
Stockholm Station	St. Lawrence	286
Stittsville	Oneida	556
Summit on road between east and west branch of Ausable River	Essex	2,207
Summit on road between Saranac River at Harrietstown and Lower Saranac	Franklin	1,684
Summit bet. Blue Mt. Lake and Rock River	Hamilton	1,820
Summit between Spruce Lake and West Can- ada Creek	Hamilton	2,409
Summit bet. Piseco Lake and Morehouse	Hamilton	1,722
Summit Water (Marcy Slope)	Essex	4,831
Tahawus Village	Essex	1,810
Totten & Crossfield Line at Carthage Road	Herkimer	1,714
Totten & Crossfield Line at Keene Valley	Essex	1,120
Theresa Station (U. & B. R. R.)	Jefferson	880
Trenton Station	Oneida	836
Upland Valley (Boquet River crossing)	Essex	2,425
Utica (R. R. station)	Oneida	405
West Stockholm	St. Lawrence	488
Wilmington	Essex	1,068

That part of the Adirondack Plateau which is covered by the Great Forest may be divided into two natural grand divisions, the Mountain Belt, and the Lake Region.

MOUNTAIN REGION.

The Mountain Belt, with its outlying foot-hills and detached peaks, occupies the eastern and southern part of the plateau; while the Lake Region stretches itself over the western and northwestern part. This Mountain Belt, whose greatest width is about forty miles, runs from Lake Champlain in a southwesterly direction. It is a wild region filled with mountains and huge masses of hypersthene belonging to the upper Laurentian system, the oldest known strata of the earth's crust. Five separate mountain chains or ranges run parallel with each other through the entire belt, at a distance of about eight miles apart. They are not always distinct. Sometimes their lateral spurs interlock, and sometimes single mountains of vast size occupy the space between the ranges and fill the valleys.

The first of these ranges encountered on the east is the Luzerne Range, which begins at Ticonderoga on Lake Champlain, and running southward, encircles Lake George, crosses the Hudson at Glens Falls, and disappears in the hills near Saratoga. Black Mountain, on Lake George, and the Potash Kettle belong to this range.

The next range to the westward is that of the Kayaderosseras, which extends from Crown Point through Warren County, ending in the lowlands south of Saratoga, and includes Mount Pharaoh, a high peak near Schroon Lake.

The third chain, known as the Schroon Range, starts near Westport, runs through Essex and Warren Counties, and ends in the valley of the Mohawk, in the eastern part of Fulton County. Schroon Lake, from which this range takes its name, lies in a deep valley near its eastern slope, and the Schroon River flows along its eastern base. This range is not a high one, Crane Mountain, with its bowl-shaped top, and Summit Lake, being the highest peaks.

Next, and still to the westward, is the Boquet Range, which starts also from Lake Champlain, and, crossing the center of Essex County, extends through the southwestern part of Hamilton County along the border of the East Canada Creek. The highest peak in this range is Mount Dix, which attains an altitude of 4,916 feet above the level of the sea. The other prominent mountains in this particular chain are Giant, Noon-mark, Dial, Nipple Top, Macomb, Sable, and the Boreas Range.

The fifth range is the main mountain belt of the wilderness, and forms the Adirondack chain proper. Starting at Port Kent, on Lake Champlain, it runs straight through Essex, Herkimer, and Hamilton Counties, to the Mohawk River, where it terminates in the rocky scenery at Little Falls. This chain is more than 100 miles in length, and is the backbone of the Adirondack Mountains, its ridge dividing the watershed of the St. Lawrence from that of the Hudson and Champlain; Mount Marcy, the highest mountain in the State, with an elevation of 5,402 feet, is the principal feature of this range; while McIntyre, Haystack, and Skylight, each over 5,000 feet in height, are also in this chain.

This division of the mountain ranges is one made by Prof. Emmons, and is more apparent to the trained observation of the geologist than to the careless eye of the tourist.

A large part of the mountain belt is underlaid with valuable iron ore and other mineral deposits. There are several successful iron industries scattered through the Champlain region, whose supply of ore is mined in the Adirondacks. Garnet mines and graphite beds sustain other industries, while here and there, throughout the mountain region, unmistakable traces of precious metals are found. A large portion of the southeast part of Hamilton County is overlaid with beds of auriferous sand. At Northville, a village in Fulton County, near the Hamilton County line, buildings and machinery have been erected for carrying on gold mining, and have been in operation for over one year. The gold is extracted from the sand by a process involving the use of electricity. Some officials of this Commission, on a recent trip through the wilderness, stopped at North-

ville, and visited these works, where ample evidence was furnished, not only of the existence of the gold, but of the ability to separate it. The stratas of sand referred to are evidently rich in gold; but it is deposited in such minute particles that it is extremely difficult to separate it. As to whether this can be done in paying quantities remains yet to be determined; although the persons connected with the works at Northville expressed themselves as well satisfied with the result of their experiments, and confident of further success.

THE LAKE REGION,

or second grand division referred to, stretches westward from the base of the main Adirondack range to the borders of the forest, a distance of fifty miles. It includes the tract lying north and west of a line drawn from the Fulton Chain, through the Raquette and Long Lakes to the Saranacs. It is a comparatively level region, as is shown by the slight fall and easy flow of the Raquette and Beaver rivers. Its lakes are most numerous in the northwest corner of Hamilton County, and in the adjoining parts of Herkimer and St. Lawrence. This network of lakes and ponds is a wonderful and attractive feature of the great wilderness, adding a rare diversity to the scenery. They are so closely connected that trips of 100 miles can be made in guide boats; water journeys broken only by short "carries" that seldom exceed two miles in length. These water-routes, combined with mountain trips and Adirondack stage-rides, make this region a perpetual delight to the summer tourist. Nowhere in the world is there such a combination of wild, grand scenery, and delightful, easy travel, lying at the very threshold of civilization.

The watershed of the Hudson does not include so large an area of the Great Forest as is generally supposed. The line of this watershed is as follows:

Starting from the Mohawk Valley, at a point a little west of Herkimer, it runs in a northwesterly direction, including Lake Honnedaga (Jock's Lake), the waters of the West Canada Creek, West Canada Lakes, and Cedar Lakes; thence nearly north to a



S. R. Stoddard, Photo.

OSPREY ISLAND, RAQUETTE LAKE.
State Land.

point within one mile of Blue Mountain Lake, and then continuing in the same direction it follows a ridge which brings its line within a half mile of the lower end of Long Lake, from whence it bends to the east and runs along the ridge of Moose Mountain, Santanoni, Henderson, Wall Face, and McIntyre to Mount Marcy, whose southwestern slopes hold the little lakes and streams which are claimed to be the fountain head of the Hudson River. From the summit of the latter mountain, the line of the watershed runs south across the peak of Skylight and Allen Mountains to the Boreas Range, along whose ridge it runs northward to the Ausable Lakes; thence, including Nipple Top and Dix, it runs south along a line about ten miles from Lake Champlain and Lake George, including the waters of Paradox, Schroon, and Brant Lakes, to a point three miles west of the head of Lake George; thence to Glens Falls, where it meets the river itself.

Many will note with surprise that Lake George is not within the Hudson watershed; although, at Glens Falls, it is only eight miles distant in an air line from the river itself.

The principal lakes, rivers and streams of the Great Forest, which are within the lines of the watershed of the Hudson River and tributary to it, are as follows: Lakes Pleasant, Piseco, Oxbow, Round, Elm, Morehouse, Honnedaga, West Canada, Wilmurt, Salmon, Spruce, Cedar, Lewey, Indian, Rock, Seven Chain, Catlin, Rich, Harris, Newcomb, Thirteenth, Henderson, Sanford, Colden, Boreas, Elk, Paradox, Brant, Schroon, and Luzerne; the rivers Sacandaga, Indian, Cedar, Opalescent, Boreas, and Schroon; and the equally important tributaries of the East Canada Creek, West Canada Creek, and Stony Creek.

The following well-known lakes and rivers belong to the Canadian watershed, their waters running either directly to the St. Lawrence, or thence by way of Lake Champlain: Lakes George, Placid, Saranacs, St. Regis, Loon, Rainbow, Osgood, Meacham, Massawepie, Cranberry, the Tupper's, Smith's, Albany, Red Horse Chain, Beaver, Brandreth, Bog River Chain, Big Moose, Fulton Chain, Woodhull, Bisby, Raquette, and Blue Mountain; and the rivers Moose, Beaver, Oswegatchie, Grasse, Raquette, St. Regis, Salmon, Saranac, Ausable, and Boquet.

TREES OF THE ADIRONDACKS.

There is little or no peculiarity in the dendrological features of the Great Forest, the species and varieties of trees being the common ones which may be seen in all parts of the State. By far the greater part of the forest is of deciduous growth, about twenty per cent only of the trees being conifers. Of the deciduous trees the most common species are the maple, birch, and beech, with their varieties. Next, and in order of quantity, come the poplar, ash, cherry, ironwood, basswood, willow, elm, red oak, butternut, sycamore, and chestnut. The smaller species of trees or shrubs are represented by the mountain ash, alder, mountain maple (*Acer spicatum*), striped dogwood (*Acer Pennsylvanicum*), shad-bush, sumach, elder, and "witch-hopple" (*Viburnum lantanoides*). The chestnut is very rare throughout the Adirondack Plateau; although growing close to the foot hills, it disappears on the higher altitudes of the Great Forest. For the same reason the oaks are rare and stunted.

Among the conifers are found the spruce, hemlock, balsam, tamarack, and white cedar. Some white pine of original growth remains, but this noble tree, which once grew thickly throughout the whole region, is now limited to a few small patches of inferior quality.

In the following list of trees, which includes all that are indigenous to New York, the kinds which may be found on the Adirondack Plateau are designated by an asterisk:

NATIVE TREES OF NEW YORK.

(Trees only, and not including shrubs.)

Cucumber or Magnolia.....	<i>Magnolia acuminata.</i>
Whitewood or Tulip tree.....	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera.</i>
Basswood or Linden*.....	<i>Tilia Americana.</i>
Horse-chestnut.....	<i>Aesculus Hippocastanum.</i>
Sugar Maple or Hard Maple*.....	<i>Acer saccharinum.</i>
Black Sugar Maple*.....	<i>Acer nigrum (Var.).</i>
Soft or Red Maple*.....	<i>Acer rubrum.</i>
White or Silver Maple*.....	<i>Acer dasycarpum.</i>
Ash-leaved Maple or Box Elder.....	<i>Negundo aceroides.</i>
Kentucky Coffee Tree.....	<i>Gymnocladus Canadensis.</i>

NATIVE TREES OF NEW YORK, ETC.—(Continued).

Locust	<i>Robinia Pseudacacia.</i>
Honey Locust	<i>Gleditschia triacanthos.</i>
Black or Wild Cherry*	<i>Prunus serotina.</i>
Sweet Gum	<i>Liquidamber styraciflua.</i>
Sour Gum or Pepperidge	<i>Nyssa multiflora.</i>
Persimmon	<i>Diospyros Virginiana.</i>
White Ash*	<i>Fraxinus Americana.</i>
Black Ash*	<i>Fraxinus sambucifolia.</i>
Red Ash	<i>Fraxinus pubescens.</i>
Green Ash	<i>Fraxinus viridis.</i>
White or American Elm*	<i>Ulmus Americana.</i>
Slippery or Red Elm	<i>Ulmus fulva.</i>
Cork or Thomas's Elm	<i>Ulmus racemosa.</i>
Nettle Tree or Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis.</i>
Butternut	<i>Juglans cinerea.</i>
Black Walnut	<i>Juglans nigra.</i>
Sycamore or Buttonwood	<i>Platanus occidentalis.</i>
Red Mulberry	<i>Morus rubra.</i>
Shell-bark or Shag-bark Hickory	<i>Carya alba.</i>
Big Shell-bark Hickory	<i>Carya sulcata.</i>
Mocker-nut or White-heart Hickory	<i>Carya tomentosa.</i>
Pig-nut or Brown Hickory	<i>Carya porcina.</i>
Bitter-nut or Swamp Hickory	<i>Carya amara.</i>
White Oak	<i>Quercus alba.</i>
Post Oak or Box White Oak	<i>Quercus obtusiloba.</i>
Burr Oak or Over-cup Oak	<i>Quercus macrocarpa.</i>
Swamp White Oak	<i>Quercus bicolor.</i>
Chestnut Oak	<i>Quercus prinus.</i>
Willow or Peach-leaved Oak	<i>Quercus Phellos.</i>
Black Jack or Barren Oak	<i>Quercus nigra.</i>
Scarlet Oak	<i>Quercus coccinea.</i>
Black or Yellow-bark Oak*	<i>Quercus tinctoria.</i>
Red Oak*	<i>Quercus rubra.</i>
Pin Oak or Swamp Spanish Oak	<i>Quercus palustris.</i>
Rock Chestnut Oak	<i>Quercus montana.</i>
Chestnut	<i>Castanea Americana.</i>
White Beech	<i>Fagus sylvestris.</i>
Red Beech*	<i>Fagus ferruginea.</i>
Ironwood or Hop Hornbeam*	<i>Ostrya Virginica.</i>
Sweet or Black Birch*	<i>Betula lenta.</i>
Yellow or Gray Birch*	<i>Betula lutea.</i>
White Birch*	<i>Betula populifolia.</i>
Canoe or Paper Birch*	<i>Betula papyracea.</i>
River or Red Birch	<i>Betula nigra.</i>
White Willow	<i>Salix alba.</i>
Yellow Willow*	<i>Salix vitellina (Var.).</i>
Black Willow*	<i>Salix nigra.</i>

NATIVE TREES OF NEW YORK, ETC.—(Continued).

Peach Willow	<i>Salix amygdaloides.</i>
Quaking Aspen or Small Poplar*	<i>Populus tremuloides.</i>
American Aspen or Poplar*	<i>Populus grandidentata.</i>
Downy or Swamp Poplar	<i>Populus heterophylla.</i>
Cottonwood or Necklace Poplar*	<i>Populus monilifera.</i>
Balsam Poplar or Tacamahac*	<i>Populus balsamifera.</i>
Balm of Gilead*	<i>Populus candicans</i> (Var.).

SMALL TREES.

Sweet Bay or Small Magnolia	<i>Magnolia glauca.</i>
Papaw	<i>Asimina triloba.</i>
Judas Tree	<i>Cercis Canadensis.</i>
American Holly	<i>Ilex opaca.</i>
Stag-horn Sumach*	<i>Rhus typhina.</i>
Wild Red or Pin Cherry*	<i>Prunus Pennsylvanica.</i>
Wild Plum	<i>Prunus nigra.</i>
Crab-Apple	<i>Prunus coronaria.</i>
Black Thorn*	<i>Crataegus punctata.</i>
Mountain Ash*	<i>Pyrus Americana.</i>
Sheepberry or Nanny Berry	<i>Viburnum Lentago.</i>
Flowering Dogwood*	<i>Cornus florida.</i>
Alternate-leaved Dogwood	<i>Cornus alternifolia.</i>
Sassafras	<i>Sassafras officinale.</i>
Hornbeam or Water Beech	<i>Carpinus Americana.</i>

CONIFERS.

White Pine*	<i>Pinus Strobus.</i>
Pitch Pine*	<i>Pinus rigida.</i>
Yellow Pine*	<i>Pinus mitis.</i>
Scrub Pine*	<i>Pinus Banksiana.</i>
Red or Norway Pine*	<i>Pinus resinosa.</i>
Jersey Scrub Pine	<i>Pinus inops.</i>
Black Spruce*	<i>Abies nigra.</i>
White Spruce*	<i>Abies alba.</i>
Balsam*	<i>Abies balsamea.</i>
Hemlock*	<i>Tsuga Canadensis.</i>
Tamarack or Hackmatack or Larch*	<i>Larix Americana.</i>
White Cedar	<i>Cupressus thujoides.</i>
Arbor Vitae*	<i>Thuja occidentalis.</i>
Red Cedar*	<i>Juniperus Virginiana.</i>

THE ADIRONDACK PARK.

There are certain well-known routes of travel in the Adirondacks, favorite localities familiar to lovers of the wilderness, which will serve to outline the province of this report, and furnish the necessary topics for discussion. The territory can be best described by taking in succession the more prominent of these routes and localities.

As three-fourths of the people visiting the Adirondacks pass through Albany on their way, we will take this city as a general starting point; and, beginning with the longest trip, one which will show more of the Adirondacks than any other, attention is called to what may be termed the

BLUE MOUNTAIN, LONG LAKE, AND SARANAC ROUTE.

Leaving Albany for Saratoga, the first gateway to the wilderness is found at the latter place. Though the largest and most thronged of our fashionable summer resorts, Saratoga is not far from the Great Forest, and is within an hour's ride of the lumbermen's camps. Saratoga County is one of the twelve Adirondack counties specified in the act establishing the Forest Preserve, containing within its borders 100,000 acres of forest land, of which a considerable amount belongs to the State, while its northwestern boundaries adjoin the unbroken forests of Hamilton County. Starting from Saratoga Springs, the Adirondack Railway runs through wild and picturesque scenery, and penetrates the southern borders of the Great Forest. The road is fifty-eight miles long, running nearly north, and, after the first fifteen miles, follows the beautiful valley of the Upper Hudson. At Hadley, twenty-two miles from Saratoga, passengers leave the train for Lake Luzerne, a popular summer resort on the opposite side of the river, about one mile from the station. It is a small, but pretty,

lake, with an altitude of 639 feet, and is generally taken to be a worthy namesake of the famous Swiss resort, although, in fact, it was named in honor of Chevalier Luzerne, the first French Minister to the United States. It is about 300 feet higher than Lake George, and eleven miles distant from it.

At Riverside Station, stages may be taken for Schroon Lake, a ride of eight miles on four-horse "Concord" coaches, over a pleasant road. This lake is about ten miles long, has an altitude of 830 feet, is navigated by a small steamer, and is beautifully situated, its many attractions making it a popular resort. It was named in honor of the Frenchwoman, Madame Scarron — afterward de Maintenon — and the name,* given as it was by the officers of the French garrison at Crown Point, recalls the many historic events connected with the early occupation of this territory by the French. But Schroon and Luzerne, although situated within the Adirondack Mountain Range, and closely adjoining its forests, are not within the boundaries of the proposed Park, as any line which would include Schroon Lake would also include too large an area of cleared land, besides several small villages.

Along the Upper Hudson, the log drives of the lumbermen are a frequent sight, with the consequent masses of tumbled logs that are left stranded by low water among the huge rocks which encumber the stream.

North Creek, the terminus of the railway, is one of the principal entrances to the Great Forest, and here conveyances of all kinds await the arrival of trains to distribute the passengers to the various localities which are reached by this route. It is the point of departure for Newcomb Lakes, Adirondack Iron Works, Aiden Lair, Boreas River, and other places in the western part of Essex County.

Large six-horse coaches run from here to Blue Mountain Lake, twenty-nine miles distant, their accommodations being supplemented by elegant carriages of comfortable build which can be had at an advance over the regular stage-fare. But in good

*The change in spelling appears first in the field-notes of a survey made in 1794, in which it is spelled, Scaron; and afterward, in the Public Documents, 1830, in which the name is printed Scharoon.

weather, there is no conveyance which can offer the pleasure afforded by an outside seat on one of the mail coaches. The woodland scenery and mountain views, combined with the novel method of travel, makes the ride a delightful one. Even the older travelers, to whom a Concord coach is nothing new, find a keen pleasures in thus reviving memories of early travel and the days when staging was not so rare a feature of a journey. The road is kept in excellent condition, the horses are sent along at full speed, and the ride to Blue Mountain is made in a few hours without fatigue, or regrets that there is no railroad.

Leaving North Creek Station the road is nearly level, following the bank of the Hudson, and giving a closer view of the river scenery. Piles of logs awaiting a freshet still encumber the bed of the river, the many small ones exciting surprise and unfavorable comment on the part of those familiar with lumbering operations elsewhere. At the little collection of houses known as North River the boundary of the proposed Adirondack Park is crossed, and with it commences the ascent of one of the longest and steepest pieces of stage road on the entire plateau. The road here turns to the west, and climbs the mountain side under the shade of overhanging trees, rising 1,000 feet in less than four miles, until the summit is reached at an altitude of over 2,200 feet. After crossing this divide the road runs for a few miles through State land, some of which was burned over about twenty-five years ago, but which is now covered with a new growth of small trees, indicating that if this land is protected from further damage by fire it will in a short time completely reforest itself.

At McGinn's place, fifteen and one-half miles from North Creek, a view may be had of Mounts Marcy, McIntyre, and Haystack, which loom up grandly in the distance on the right, while a little farther on, Mount Seward may be seen to the north.

Sixteen miles from North Creek, the Indian River, a tributary of the Hudson, is crossed; and one mile further on, the small village of Indian Lake is reached. The lake itself is two miles south of the village.

Indian Lake, which is now about eleven miles long, was originally less than half this length; but a dam built at its outlet many years ago raised the water and overflowed the lands along the river at its head until the length of the lake was doubled. For many years this addition to its surface was thickly studded with the whitened trunks of the dead trees which were killed by the rise of the water. In time, through the action of the ice and wind, this dead timber fell and passed out over the dam. The lake has adjusted itself to its artificial conditions, with little or nothing to indicate that its present outlines were not the original ones. Next to Long Lake, it is now the longest lake in the Adirondacks. The old and new lake being merged in one, it is now a beautiful expanse of water walled in on every side by bold, well-wooded shores. The Snowy Mountain Range, with an altitude of nearly 4,000 feet, rises in steep terraces along the northern shore. In the fall its forests of green and gold echo with the baying of hounds, for this locality is unsurpassed as a hunting ground.

The beauty of this lake and its present area is dependent on the dam at its outlet. The damage and unsightly views once caused by it are matters of the past. If the dam were destroyed and the water allowed to fall, the upper half of the lake would be changed into a dismal swamp, interspersed with slimy pools and rotting stumps. Now, that the dam has been built, and the scenery has recovered from its effects, it should be maintained at its present height. If this can be done in no other way, the State should do it at public expense. It would furnish an immense reservoir for the Hudson, and any variation in depth incidental to reservoir purposes would in no way affect the beauty of its steep banks.

The origin of the name is in dispute. One authority claims that the lake was a sacred place of resort among the Iroquois. Others assert that it took its name from the old Penobscot Indian, "Sabele," a centenarian, who once lived a lonely life upon its shore. His wigwam was still there in 1848, and, though reputed to be 101 years old then, he was strong and active, still follow-

ing the chase and trapping for furs. It is said that he was present at the fall of Quebec, in 1759, and participated in the fighting, although he was then only 12 years old.

Lewey Lake, a quiet resort for hunters and fishermen, is separated from Indian Lake by a short carry of about forty rods, the waters of the former running into the latter. It is a charming lake, about one and a half miles long, resting in the cool shadows of Snowy Mountain. Two small islands add to the charm of its scenery. It was named after the Canadian half-breed, Louis, who, for a long time, trapped and hunted there, and whose name appears in the erroneous though phonetic spelling. The Miami River terminates in this body of water, the stream below Indian Lake being known as the Indian River. The Jessup River flows into Indian Lake near its upper end, and it may be said that the junction of the waters of the Miami and Jessup form the Indian River.

The village of Indian Lake is also the starting point for the Seven Chain Lakes, which are situated nine miles to the northward, in Township 18. The road leading there is, at present, in very poor condition; but these seven lakes possess attractions in scenery and game which will repay either the tourist or sportsman for any inconvenience in his journey there. The waters of this chain flow into the Cedar River, and thence into the Hudson.

Changing horses at Indian Lake, the stages bowl rapidly along to the Cedar River, two miles farther west, passing on the way the desolate track of a cyclone which swept over there on the 12th of July, 1888, and which nearly struck a passing stage coach. This cyclone did not cut a wide swath, but its path was marked by evidences of a terrible resistless force. It not only uprooted trees, but its rotary motion twisted the trunks of many large trees in two, wrenching off the entire crowns and limbs, and leaving the torn and broken trunks standing solidly in the ground. It lasted for a few minutes only; but, if the loaded stage coach which barely escaped its path had been struck by it, there would have been a serious loss of life. In May, 1891,

an incendiary fire was started in the dry, dead timber left by this windfall, which burned fiercely and spread quickly into the adjoining forests, where it did serious damage before it could be checked.

Near Indian Lake, passengers on top of the coaches have a good opportunity of observing what is known as a "beaver meadow," many of which are scattered throughout the Great Forest. They are sometimes called Indian meadows, and are also known as Vlaies (Dutch), or Flys. Many of these meadows contain the remains of old beaver dams, and trunks of trees gnawed by the beavers' teeth. Some of the meadows are supposed to have been formed by these old dams, whose backwater prevented or destroyed all adjacent tree growth, and, retaining the earthy or vegetable deposits of the stream which remained after the dam had ceased to exist, formed the level meadow through which the original stream still holds its tortuous and sluggish flow. Most of these meadows are underlaid with beds of peat.

Some of these fields are remarkable for their large area. There is one on the south branch of the Moose river, known as the Indian Clearing, which is three miles long and one-half mile wide, containing 1,000 acres. The Sacandaga Vlaie, in the northern part of Fulton County, is five miles long, and, in some places, over a mile in width. It is not claimed, however, that these larger vlaies are the result of beaver dams; they are probably the beds of former lakes. Some of the smaller meadows or bogs are covered with bright green moss, interspersed with gay wild flowers, but most of them are overgrown with a species of wild grass which is generally cut and harvested by some neighboring settler. The State forests contain many of these meadows, on which the right to cut this wild hay is sold annually to the highest bidders, the money thus received being turned over by the Commission to the State Treasurer.

From the Summit to Cedar River, the appearance of the lands along the road is disappointing. There is too much open country and too little of the forest scenery which one expects to see. The open country is due to unsuccessful efforts at farming, and the



BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE.
From the Hill.

S. R. Stoddard, Photo.

dwarfed condition of the trees to the disastrous fires which, in some places, have occurred repeatedly. But, from Cedar River to Blue Mountain Lake, the road runs for ten miles through an unbroken forest, which, to the unpracticed eye, shows no diminution of its primeval beauty. Though the lumbermen cut off, years ago, the merchantable spruce and pine, they took so few trees to the acre that little trace remains of their operations, especially as the smaller evergreens that were left are fast taking the place of those which were cut.

A few miles beyond Cedar River, there is a depression, across which the stage road runs, following the top of a singular looking ridge that, in size, shape, and level grade, closely resembles a railroad embankment. It is about a mile in length, and, as it crosses the valley, looks exactly like the usual "fill" or "dump" incidental to railway construction. In fact, the traveler, until informed to the contrary, assumes it to be some piece of work connected with the oft-proposed extension of the Adirondack Railway. If built by man, however, the work was done by some pre-historic race; but it is probably the result of glacial action, and, from the low ground on each side, seems to have been the central moraine of a glacier. At any rate, the observant tourist will note it with interest, and will shorten the miles as he frames conjectures about its origin.

Just before reaching Blue Mountain, the line of the Hudson watershed is passed, and the stage rolls swiftly down the grade which brings it to the lake, whose waters flow to the Raquette River and thence to the St. Lawrence.

Blue Mountain Lake is one of the most attractive places in the Park, owing to its beautiful scenery and ample hotel accommodations. It has an elevation of 1,801 feet, is nearly round, and is about three miles wide at its greatest diameter. It is the most remote of the head-waters of the Raquette River, and is the beginning of that long chain of beautiful lakes and streams which, stretching away to the north, offers to the summer tourist and his guide a well-nigh unbroken boat ride of over eighty miles. The shores of Blue Mountain Lake are well forested, rising in bold outlines on all sides, while its surface is interspersed

with islands whose foliage breaks the view into pleasant vistas of woods and water. The mountain from which it takes its name rises directly from the eastern side of the lake, attaining an altitude of nearly 4,000 feet. Its ascent is not difficult, a path of moderate grade running to the summit, from whence there is a grand outlook which well repays the mountain climber for the trip. The climbing is not so difficult but that ladies make the trip without fatigue; in fact, they form a majority of the parties that, almost daily, during the summer season, may be seen on their way to the summit. This mountain shows but poorly from the hotels around its base, and one must go to the farther side of the lake to obtain a good view of its outlines. The forest on its northern slope has suffered from fire; but the remaining portion is thickly covered with dark green foliage, which at a distance assumes the peculiar hue that gave the mountain its present well-known name. This mountain was once known as Mount Emmons, a name given in honor of Prof. Ebenezer Emmons, an eminent geologist whose scientific explorations of the Adirondack ranges and official reports on that region occupy a prominent place in the series of publications issued by the State under the title of "The Natural History of New York." The old Indian name of this mountain was Too-wah-loon-dah, the "Hill of Storms."

Passing through Blue Mountain Lake, and westward through its outlet, the next sheet of water is Eagle Lake. This lake is about one mile in length, with no particular feature of interest, unless it be the house and clearing on the north shore in which "Ned Buntline," the author, once lived.

A winding outlet of a half-mile or so leads into Utowana Lake, a long and narrow body of water stretching away for two miles still farther to the west. The Blue Mountain, Eagle, and Utowana Lakes constitute the Eckford Chain referred to by Headley and other writers connected with the earlier literature of the region. Prof. Emmons, in his report of 1811, states that these lakes were called "the Eckford Chain from its principal lake, which is about five miles long;" and then adds the somewhat confusing statement that "the upper (?) lake of this chain

is called Lake Janet, from a respect entertained for the accomplished lady of the Zoologist of the Survey." Eagle was also named at one time "Lake Lyman," and Utowana, "Lake Marion." But long before the scientists named these waters they were known to the hunters and trappers as the Blue Mountain and Tallow Lakes.

The Utowana flows into the Marion River, which is dammed near the outlet of the lake in order to make these waters navigable for a small steam-launch that runs from Blue Mountain to this point. The little steamer connects with another which awaits it at the end of a half-mile "Carry," and from there runs down the Marion River, out into Raquette Lake, and thence to the various camps along its shores. The scenery along the Utowana is marred by the effects of this dam, whose back-water has in many places overflowed the banks and killed the trees along the shore, while the narrow winding outlets which were once overhung with foliage have been changed by it into marshes filled by dead, unsightly trees. The shores of the Marion River, below the Carry, present a still worse appearance and show a still greater destruction of timber, the damage on this part of the route being caused by a dam at the outlet of Raquette Lake, which was put there to raise the water of the lake and Marion River so as to render the latter navigable. By the introduction of these steamers the traveling public saves some time and money; but in the meantime the scenery has been lost beyond recovery.

But the flowed lands along the Marion River afford a good feeding place for deer in the early summer months, and frequently the steamer passengers are treated to the sight of an antlered buck or wild doe feeding in the marshes and standing quietly until the boat passes within a stone's throw. Then, assuming a startled, picturesque attitude, the animal gazes for a moment at the boat, and, turning quickly, disappears with graceful bounds in the forest. In the autumn months, however, the deer are shy, and can not be seen.

This Commission is often criticised for permitting the dams in the Adirondack rivers to remain. In reply to such strictures,

attention is called to section 9, chapter 283, Laws of 1885, the Act establishing this Department, and under which it exercises its powers and duties. The section referred to contains this clause:

"The Forest Commission may, from time to time, prescribe rules or regulations affecting the whole or any part of the Forest Preserve, and for its use, care and administration; but neither such rules or regulations, nor anything herein contained, shall prevent, or operate to prevent, the *free use of any road, stream, or water, as the same may have been heretofore used*, or as may be reasonably required in the prosecution of any lawful business."

The framers of the Forest Commission Act are not responsible for this clause. But it was inserted and accepted; for without it the successful passage of the bill through the Legislature would have been extremely doubtful. These dams on Raquette Lake and the Marion River, and the navigation of their waters by steamers, existed before the passage of this Act. Moreover, it is idle to talk of them now. The damage caused by them has already been inflicted, and is beyond repair. The advantages offered by the steamboats still remain, and may as well be accepted without further discussion. This matter of dams will be referred to again.

From the steamboat landing at Bassett's Carry, the Marion River runs in a series of bends and loops for four miles to where it empties into Raquette Lake. Its banks are lined with a mass of dead trees which were killed by the rise of water consequent upon damming the outlet of Raquette Lake. About two miles below the Carry, large signs have been placed opposite each other on either side, bearing the words.....

TOWNSHIP 40,
TOTTEN & CROSSFIELD'S PURCHASE.
STATE LAND.

The township, whose boundary is crossed here, contains thirty-eight square miles, and, with the exception of a few small camp sites, belongs to the State. Raquette Lake lies almost entirely within its limits, making this township the most valuable one

of the whole Adirondack Region. The lake occupies about 9,000 acres, leaving 16,000 acres of land, which are covered with an unbroken, primitive forest.

The Raquette (French for snow-shoe) is one of the largest of the Adirondack Lakes, and is deemed by many the most beautiful lake in the Adirondacks. It is the Queen of the Wilderness.

Its name is founded on a bit of history, hitherto traditional. During the War of the Revolution, a party of Indians and British soldiers, under command of Sir John Johnson, a son of Sir William Johnson, passed through the wilderness on their way from the Mohawk Valley to Canada. It was in the winter time, and, on reaching this lake, the party was overtaken by a sudden thaw, which made further travel on snow-shoes impossible. As the Indians and soldiers did not want to carry their snow-shoes, or *raquettes*, as they termed them, they piled them up and covered them over, making a large heap that remained there many years. The expedition had reached the South Inlet when the thaw set in, and it was there, on a point of land, that the pile was made. The great pines beneath which the raquettes were deposited stood there, gaunt and bare, until a few years ago, when they were cut for use in building Camp Pine Knot. Old Mr. Woods, the pioneer settler of Raquette Lake, heard this story from the Indians themselves, and often pointed out to hunters the decaying fragments of the raquettes. Woods, in company with "Honest John Plumley," Murray's celebrated guide, once opened a couple of graves in the old Indian burying ground, on the point near the outlet of the lake, and found them lined up with birch bark, and containing arrow heads, while on the old pines close by, the usual Indian hieroglyphics were plainly to be seen.

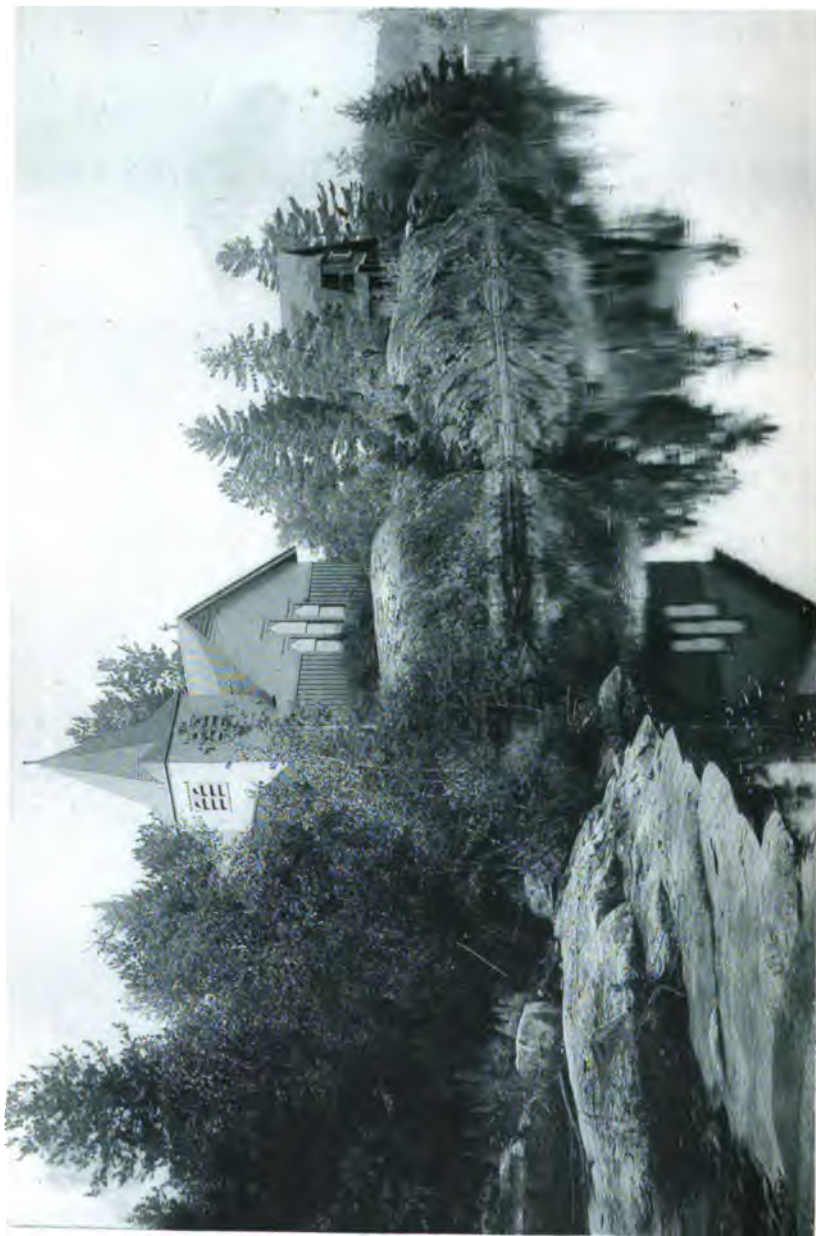
The lake is not over six miles in length, measured in an air line across capes and bays; but the long points and deep indentations which grace its shores give a breadth in some places equal to its length, and add one-third to the distance of the journey through it. These deep bays and irregularities of outline are a wonderful feature in its beauty, and are so frequent and

extensive that its coast line is over forty miles in length. In many places the long capes or headlands jutting out from either shore overlap in the distance, and mingled with the islands seem to form the end of the lake, until a sudden bend in the shore opens a new vista and the sight of what appears to be another body of water. Throughout its whole length there is a series of beautiful panoramic views revealing a succession of lakes, each of which rivals the other in its own peculiar exhibition of the picturesque.

The Raquette has an elevation of 1,774 feet, and is surrounded by rugged hills and mountain scenery. From the South Bay a grand view of the Blue Mountain greets the eye, its graceful outline showing to better advantage here than from any other point. In the South Bay there are two miniature sea beaches of clean sand, one white and one yellow, which are known respectively as Silver and Golden Beach. These bits of clean, sandy shore are not an uncommon feature of the Adirondack lakes, being particularly noticeable at Meacham, Catlin, and Round Lakes. Their location on the shore indicates the direction of the prevailing winds during that part of the year in which the lakes are not covered with ice. On the South Bay, also, is one of the finest and most expensive private "camps" in the Great Forest. This elegant rustic villa, and the buildings connected with it, were erected on grounds belonging to the occupant.

There are several islands in the lake, all of which, with one exception, belong to the State, and are open to the public for camping purposes. Wood's Island, named after an early settler, is the largest and contains over eighty acres. There is a cottage on it which was built by a tenant-at-will before the domain was placed in charge of this Commission. Osprey Island, the next largest, derived its name from a fish-hawk which yearly built her nest and reared her young in the top of one of the stately pines which are a prominent feature of this island. A handsome cottage, built of logs in rustic style, adorns this island, and as it was there when the island was turned over to the custody of the Commission, it has been allowed to remain.





S. R. Stoddard, Photo.

ST. HUBERT'S ISLE, RAQUETTE LAKE.

The one island in the Raquette not owned by the State is St. Hubert's Isle, which was sold to the Episcopal Board of Missions. A small chapel of graceful design stands on this island, and, with its parsonage, forms an interesting feature of the locality. Another chapel, of neat and attractive appearance, may be seen on the main land near the post-office. The latter edifice was erected by W. W. Durant, Esq., and donated by him to the Catholics; and now on Sabbath mornings during the summer the smooth surface of the quiet lake is dotted with the boats of the campers on their way to religious service.

But there are other waters beside the famous Raquette, and so the *voyageur* and his guide paddle down the lake, past the canvas tents gleaming white among the foliage, and the painted cottages which mark the wooded knolls and leafy bays with pleasing bits of color, and coming to the Forked Lake Carry draw their light boat ashore.

This "carry" becomes necessary on account of the dam at the outlet of Raquette Lake, which prevents boats from running the rapids in the Raquette River just below. Next to the Hudson, the Raquette is the longest river in the State; and although it rises in Blue Mountain Lake, it does not assume its name until the outlet of Raquette Lake is reached. The distance from here to the Forked is only a half mile, and so the guide carries the boat, dispensing with the services of the horse and wagon, which are mostly used to haul the boats of the neighboring campers, of whom many a one has not acquired the knack of picking up a boat and carrying it on his shoulders. A good wagon road crosses this carry, offering a pleasant walk through the forest whose trees line its sides and furnish delightful shade. It is traveled more than any other; for, in addition to the large number crossing here on their way to the Saranacs, the tourists between the Fulton Chain and the Tuppers also use this carry. Just before the boat arrives at this place, the line between Townships 40 and 35 is passed, and signs bearing the words, "Township 40, State Land," have been posted at this point also.

Forked Lake lies wholly in Township 35, the greater part of which township was owned by the State until recently, when

its title was set aside. The lake is five miles long and very irregular in shape, having deep indentations in its northern shore in addition to the peculiar parting at one point, from which it takes its name. The land along this entire lake is well timbered, the large number of tall white pines being particularly noticeable. These pines are first growth, and of large size; but, owing to ring-rot and other defects, they have proved worthless for timber, and accordingly have been left standing.

The Raquette River flows into Forked Lake about two miles below the carry, and, mingling its waters with the lake, leaves it at the eastern end, forming the outlet. Immediately on entering the river, the channel offers so many obstructions that a carry of one and one-half miles is necessary. On this and on other portages of similar length, the guide-boats are hauled by horses on a wagon rigged for that especial purpose. At the upper end of this carry, a squatter, who found employment in hauling boats during the summer months, built a small house several years ago. He did not own the land on which he built, and has never owned it since. He occupied the house during the tourist season only, residing elsewhere during the greater part of the year. Yet, the temporary occupancy by this squatter was made the sole basis of an application to the Comptroller for the redemption of this land from the tax sales through which the State acquired its ownership; and the application covered not only the hundred feet square or so cleared and occupied by the squatter, but it covered the State's interest in the entire southeast quarter of Township 35, in which it is situated, and which comprises 5,500 acres. The application included this southeast quarter on the plea that it was sold under that description — as one parcel — at the tax sale; and that the right to redeem any portion permitted the redemption of it all. Through the courtesy of the Comptroller's office, the application was referred to this Department for an examination of certain alleged facts, in pursuance of which this Commission obtained important information relating to the case, and did all in its power to prevent the loss of the tract. The application was granted, however, and the State lost title to the land.

This portage, which is known as the Long Carry, is a muddy, rough road. The balsams along the way are a redeeming feature, one clump of which, near a little bridge, gives forth such a rich, aromatic perfume that the passer-by can not help but notice it, and pause to inhale its healing odor.

The Raquette River below this carry is a pleasant change from the broad stretches of the lakes. The stream is narrow, rocky, and winding; the water shallow, but clear; and the banks are lined with thick foliage of pleasing variety. There is a profusion of wild flowers, among which the cardinal flower (*cardinalis lobelia*) is conspicuous, its dashes of red showing vividly against the green background of the river grasses. The scenery is not grand; but it is marvelously beautiful.

This part of the Raquette is best seen in going down the river. The current is so strong, and the channel so obstructed by rocks, that the exertion necessary in rowing up the stream is apt to divert attention from the scenery; while the descent is accompanied by an easy motion which adds to the enjoyment of the ride, and leaves the traveler free to note the beauty which greets the eye on every side.

A short ride brings one to the milk-white foam of Buttermilk Falls, around which the boat must be carried a few rods. Another ride through some more charming scenery, another carry of a half mile, and then the river widens and is merged in that grand highway of the wilderness, Long Lake.

This lake is fourteen miles long, and, for a good part of the distance, seems to be a widening of the Raquette River, which flows throughout its entire length, forming both its inlet and its outlet. Before reaching its outlet the lake broadens until it attains a width of nearly one mile. It has an elevation of 1,614 feet, the waters of Blue Mountain Lake falling 187 feet in reaching this point; but, as the distance is thirty-one miles, it would indicate an average grade of only six feet to the mile, an easy flow for a mountain stream. Though its waters parted company with those of the Hudson at the Blue Mountain watershed, they again approach the headwaters of that river closely at Long Lake. On the eastern shore, about one mile below

Senator Platt's camp, a path leads to the Hendrick Spring, whose waters flow into Round Pond and thence through Catlin Lake into the Upper Hudson. This spring is one of the most remote sources of the Hudson River; and, believing it to be the fountain head of that noble stream, it was named thus in honor of the great discoverer, the idea suggesting both the completion of his name and the geography of the river. It is only a few rods from Long Lake to Hendrick Spring; and in 1846, Prof. G. W. Benedict, of the State Geological Survey, projected a canal for connecting them, in order that the waters of Long Lake might be made available for driving logs and increasing the water power of the Upper Hudson. The project contemplated a dam at the outlet of Long Lake, which would be of assistance in the scheme; but the citizens of Potsdam and other towns along the Lower Raquette interfered promptly, and prevented any diversion of the water from its natural course. The abandoned canal, however, remains, calling attention to an interesting topographical feature of this locality, and furnishing another text for the oft-quoted moral based upon some story of diverging streams.

The village of Long Lake is situated on the east side of the lake about three miles from the inlet, and is one of the very few villages, or small collection of houses, within the lines of the proposed Park. The settlement dates back to 1836; and in 1841 there were fourteen families in the vicinity. The entire town, including the village, contains now a population of 324. A good stage road runs from here to Blue Mountain Lake—nine miles distant by this road, although thirty-three miles by water. The road runs through the forest, with here and there a pleasant glimpse of lake and mountain scenery. Another good road runs eastward from Long Lake Village to the Marcy Region, by way of Newcomb, Tahawus Post-office, and Adirondack Iron Works, This road after leaving Newcomb also leads to Schroon Lake by way of Aiden Lair, Minerva, and Olmstedville; also to Paradox Lake, and thence to Lake Champlain at Crown Point. These roads are in good condition and fairly smooth; but their prolongation to the west of Long Lake Village—known as the

Carthage or Old Military Road — is little traveled, and is exceedingly rough. From Long Lake detours are made to the Tupper, by way of Clear Lake and the Slim Pond Chain; while on the east, Catlin Lake is reached by the way of Round Pond and two short carries. The hunting and fishing through all this central region is good. Trout are scarce in Long Lake, however, owing to the pickerel which have been placed in it.

The State owns a large amount of land on the lake, and in its immediate vicinity. The upper end of the lake is situated in Township 21, of which the State owns 17,755 acres, all forest land. A private preserve of 4,000 acres, including land on both shores, has lately been established. Some small farms have been cleared in the vicinity of the village, and some lumbering operations have been carried on near the lake. Fires have also inflicted some damage. But the general appearance of the forest is good; and if the State acquires entire possession, this locality will be one of the most attractive places in the Park, and, at the same time, a very desirable tract for the purposes of forestry.

There are several beautiful islands in Long Lake, and the mountain views are fine. Owl's Head is situated on the west side, at the south end, and, though not a high peak, it has received considerable attention from distinguished writers and tourists, some twenty lakes being plainly visible from its summit. On the opposite side of the lake, near the village, stands Mount Sabattis, named in honor of Mitchell Sabattis, an old Indian guide, and a very worthy man. Both these mountains are owned by the State. A long, high ridge, known as Mount Kempshall, runs parallel with the eastern shore, and one of the many "Buck" Mountains rises on the west near the outlet. To the northwest, and down the lake, lies Mount Seward, with an altitude of 4,384 feet. This mountain shows a series of peaks, and is a detached ridge, forming a western spur of the main Adirondack Range. A view is also had of the peak of Santanoni (4,644 feet), whose blue lines loom up on the east over Moose Mountain.

A noteworthy feature of this lake is the stony beach just below the village. The shore is paved with cobble stones, laid

with an evenness and regularity resembling the work of man so closely that the tourist learns with surprise that it is the handiwork of Nature.

Nothing has been said thus far about hotels, for reasons already given; but the main traveled routes described here abound in excellent accommodations for the wayfaring tourist, and each traveler will find in his guide an encyclopedia of information on all such points.

The outlet of the lake is shallow, and obstructed by a sand bar on which there is, in September, a thick growth of rushes through which the boat makes its way with difficulty. The Raquette River here resumes its course, and, for a short distance, flows through wild meadows that afford an annual crop of coarse hay. The stream then flows along banks shaded with leaning cedars and water maples (*acer dasycarpum*), receiving on the east the waters of Cold River, a stream which rises on the farthest slope of Mount Seward. At Raquette Falls there is a carry of a mile and a quarter in order to pass the rapids and the falls below them, the road running over a high ridge. It is a "draw" instead of a carry, the boats being hauled across on a wagon. The vehicle is rigged with a framework by which it can carry four boats at one trip. The falls are about fifteen feet high and very picturesque. Passing tourists, familiar with Adirondack literature, rehearse the romantic story of "Phantom Falls," and discuss the possibility of running them in a canoe, or indulge in criticisms on that famous piece of fiction.

Below Raquette Falls the river is extremely crooked, flowing in a succession of sharp bends and loops. In some places the guide runs his boat ashore, slides it for ten rods or so across a neck of land, and, launching it on the farther side, resumes his journey, having saved a half mile or more by the operation. The shores are low, the river running through level, bottom lands, wet and marshy in places, which are covered with a sparse growth of swamp maples, basswood, and poplar, mixed with scattered hemlocks and cedars. The shores, however, are well lined with leaning trees, and the alders weave a green fringe along the water's edge. In August, the "high cranberry"

(*viburnum opulus*) adorns the bank with its clusters of bright red berries, which are eagerly picked, the tart, juicy fruit having a refreshing taste to a heated, thirsty oarsman. These berries are gathered by persons who earn good wages thereby, selling the fruit to parties who use them in manufacturing a choice kind of jelly. The fruit grows on large bushes, seven to ten feet high, and is very different from the common cranberry of our markets—the *vaccinium macrocarpon* of the New Jersey marshes.

Most of the boats passing down the Raquette River from the falls are bound for the Upper Saranac Lake by way of the Indian Carry. Leaving the river at the outlet of Stony Creek, that stream is entered, and, after a sharp pull of four miles up a shallow, narrow, crooked stream, the Stony Creek Ponds are reached. These ponds, which are small, are known also as the Spectacle Ponds. There are three of them and they are situated on State land. A carry of about three-fourths of a mile, over a smooth, pleasant road, leads to the south end of the Upper Saranac Lake.

But, after going down the Raquette River, bound for the Upper Saranac, it is not advisable to go up Stony Creek. Owing to the difficulty and loss of time in ascending this shallow, crooked stream, it is better to land just below its mouth at "Calkins," and walk to the Indian Carry. From Calkins' it is two miles to the lake, the latter part of the road following the Indian Carry. The road from Calkins' is good, and a wagon can always be procured to haul a boat. But in going from the Upper Saranac to the Raquette River, the Stony Creek route is available, for the course then will be *down* the stream, and the boat can be put into Stony Creek Pond at the south end of the Indian Carry. This portage derives its name from the story that a tribe of the Saranac Indians once used this spot as a camping ground.

Arriving at the north end of this carry the watershed of the St. Lawrence is left behind, and the waters flowing to Lake Champlain are reached. The boat is launched upon the Upper Saranac Lake, and then is seen a combination of lake, island, and mountain scenery that is unsurpassed in the entire wilderness. Looking eastward from the bluffs at Wawbeek a grand

panorama arrests the eye, a picture that is fascinating in the extreme, and one that is ever new.

The Upper Saranac Lake is nine miles long, about two miles wide, and has an elevation of 1,580 feet above the sea. Its outlet is at the southeastern end, whence its waters flow through the lower lakes and Saranac River to Lake Champlain. An elegant little steamer plies between the various camps and hotels, the navigation of the lake being in no way dependent on the dam at the outlet. Trout are still caught in its waters despite the pickerel. During the summer (August 22, 1893) Major Robert L. Banks, Jr., of Albany, caught here in four hours' fishing, eleven lake trout, weighing $119\frac{1}{2}$ pounds.

The lower part of the lake is in Township 23, and borders on a large tract of State forest. The upper part is in Township 20, almost all of which belonged to the State; but its title has recently been canceled.

Midway its length the Upper Saranac Lake becomes quite narrow. The islands and bending shores interrupt the sight, creating a succession of distinct and charming views. The lake has a clean, rocky shore, lined with thick forest growth. In some places along the shore the trees grow on top of huge rocks without any earth whatever to cover their naked roots. They spread over the surface of the gray rocks which, excepting little patches of moss or lichens, are bare, and the gnarled and crooked roots seem to be searching for the crevices in which they hide themselves and secure a firm hold. Neighboring trees, growing in rich deep soil, are often blown over by the lake winds, while the rock-fastened evergreens stand firm. The geologist recognizes in these trees one of the many agencies in the disintegration of rocks and the formation of soil; the botanist finds them an interesting study in dendrology; and the passing tourist regards with curiosity this paradox in tree-growth. Some of these rock-nourished trees may be seen on the west shore of the lake, not a great distance north of the Sweeney Carry. But the best specimens of this peculiar growth are found further back in the forests, where they remain unnoticed except by the survey-





S. B. Stoddard, Photo.

UPPER SARANAC LAKE.
From the Sweeney Carry.

ors and foresters who follow the "blazed" lines* of the more remote wilderness.

Arriving at the upper end of the lake, there is a grand view to the southeast of the mountain peaks in the main Adirondack Range, a view which is surpassed in only one other locality. The many lakes and ponds lying near this end of the lake, connected with each other by short carries or streams, offer some fine scenery and pleasant boating which will repay the tourist for making a detour through them. The Adirondack and St. Lawrence Railroad runs along the edge of some of these ponds — Rollins, Floodwood, and Hoel — offering beautiful views of forests and lakes that constitute one of the principal attractions of the trip.

With the Saranacs, the northern edge of the Great Forest is nearly reached. The doors of civilization are again approached, and railroads are not so far away but that the whistle of the locomotive may be heard. From the Sweeney Carry it is only eight miles west to Tupper Lake Station on the Northern Adirondack Railroad, and but a little farther from the head of the lake to another station on the same railway, good stage roads running to each station; the line of the new Adirondack and St. Lawrence Railroad is still nearer, and runs within one mile of the head of the lake; while from the Bartlett Carry it is a short ride through the Lower Saranac Lake to the station of

* A "blaze" on a tree is made by a glancing blow of an axe, which cuts away a piece of bark leaving the wood bare for a space about seven inches long and four inches wide. The trees are thus marked by surveyors in running boundary lines, the trees near the line being blazed at intervals of five rods or thereabouts. When a tree stands exactly on the compass line the axeman, in addition to the blaze, makes three hacks or cuts with his axe near the blaze mark, and such a tree, thus known to be on the exact line, instead of being merely near it, is called a witness tree. Some of the blaze-marks on lines run by the colonial surveyors over 100 years ago, are still visible. In retracing and re-establishing these old boundaries the old axe-marks are readily detected by men skilled in woodcraft and forest surveying. Hunters, trappers, and woodsmen also blaze trees as a guide to indicate a path, trail, or line of traps. In some localities three blaze-marks in a perpendicular line on the same tree indicate a State line or road, and one blaze a township or local line; but this method of marking was never used in the Adirondack woods. The derivation of this word seems to be in doubt. Might it not have been derived from the French *blesser*, meaning to wound, to scar. The French pioneers and *courier des bois* from Canada were the first white men to penetrate the pathless wilds of our northern woods. In traveling through the forest they found it necessary to *blesser*, to wound, or scar the trees along the route. It would not be strange if the Englishmen who succeeded them adopted the word as well as the method, the French pronunciation of which is so similar to that of our word blaze.

the Chateaugay Railroad at its outlet. The traveler from the South Woods here meets the stream of tourists who have entered the wilderness at these northern gateways.

But the grand tour indicated at the beginning of this route is not yet finished; and so, leaving the Lower Saranac to be explored on some other trip, the journey lies still to the northward, across the "Braided Lakes" that form the headwaters of the St. Regis.

From the north end or head of the Upper Saranac Lake, the objective point of the traveler is generally the Lower St. Regis Lake (Paul Smith's), both points lying on the line of the long water journey from Blue Mountain to Loon Lake. In going there a choice between two ways is offered: First, that known as the Seven Carries, via Little Clear Pond, St. Regis Pond, and a chain of smaller ponds, to the Upper St. Regis Lake; and, second, via Big Clear Pond and the St. Germain Carry, to the same place. Confusion will be avoided by bearing in mind that there is a St. Regis Pond in addition to the two other lakes, by the name of St. Regis — Upper and Lower — all three situated near each other, and affording another instance of the stupid nomenclature that prevails so largely throughout the entire Adirondack region. In making round trips between the Saranac Inn and Paul Smith's, the "trippers," as the guides call them, can vary their journey to advantage by going one way, and returning the other. In going over the line only once, the second route is preferable, as it is the quicker and easier one.

It is three miles from the head of Upper Saranac Lake to Big Clear Pond, and as boats can not well ascend the stream leading to the latter, they are hauled there on "boat-wagons," while the passengers are conveyed in carriages, the road running through a pleasant forest. The buildings of the Adirondack State Fish Hatchery are passed on the way, and persons interested in fish culture and the food question, or in adding to one's stock of general information, will do well to look through the place. There are two other State hatcheries in the Great Forest, one on the Sacandaga River, and one on the Fulton Chain.

Crossing the track of the Adirondack and St. Lawrence Railroad, whose newly-made embankment skirts the south shore of Big Clear Pond, the boat is launched on its waters.

This lake, or pond, is a circular sheet of water, about two miles in diameter. In crossing, a fine view of Whiteface Mountain is had, while to the south the Marcy Range lifts its blue, serrated ridge grandly in the distance. From here the St. Germain Carry, one and one-half miles, crosses the divide which separates the waters of the Saranac from the watershed of the St. Regis River. This portage takes its name from the old half-breed who once lived here, the "Sangermo" of the guides' stories. Pushing off again on the Upper St. Regis Lake, Paul Smith's is reached without further carries.

The trip through the Upper St. Regis and Spitfire Pond is a most charming boat ride. The shores are shaded by natural groves in which are located elegant and luxurious camps, while the narrow, winding streams connecting them add a charming variety to the beautiful scenery which characterizes these two upper lakes. The Lower St. Regis, however, is disappointing, its shores being low, devoid of beauty, and uninteresting. It is two miles long, and 1,623 feet above tide water. Still, it is a very popular resort, and is easily reached by good coach roads running from the nearest railroad stations. The Northern Adirondack Station is seven miles distant; the Adirondack and St. Lawrence Railroad runs within five miles; and a smooth, well-traveled road leads eight miles to Bloomingdale Station, on the Chateaugay Railroad. There is no village on the Lower St. Regis Lake, nor any collection of houses except the famous hostelry which has given its name to the place. A Protestant Episcopal chapel (St. John's in the Wilderness), of rustic architecture, has been erected for the benefit of the large summer colony at this place, and stands near by on the Bloomingdale coach road. Mountain climbers will find the St. Regis Mountain worth the trouble of an ascent, the numerous lakes scattered around its base in every direction affording a grand panorama of forest and water.

From the Lower St. Regis the long water route of the wilderness extends still another day's journey to Loon Lake, where its

terminus is reached. The first body of water on this part of the route is Osgood Pond, which is somewhat larger than the Lower St. Regis, and only a short distance from it. It is thirty-six feet higher, and flows into a different branch of the St. Regis River. The northern boundary of the Adirondack Park is crossed here, the country to the north of this line being more or less open, with large areas of burned or denuded lands; while, eastward, along the road to Bloomingdale Station, there is a succession of cleared farms for several miles, beyond which the country is level and largely devoid of forests. But there is a good forest growth, for the greater part of the distance, along the chain of lakes leading to Loon Lake; and the Sable Mountains, on the northeast, are well wooded and stocked with deer. This territory cannot be included in the Park without making a long, narrow projection on the northern boundary, which is deemed *unadvisable*.

From Osgood Pond an extremely narrow and shallow channel leads through marshes and high swamp grass, the inlet being too narrow in many places for the use of oars. Jones' Pond has flat, marshy shores, and is a mile and one-half long. A short carry leads to Rainbow Lake, bringing the traveler again within the watershed of the Saranac River and Lake Champlain. Rainbow Lake is nearly three miles long, about three-fourths of a mile wide, with a bend in its general direction from which it derives its name. Although on the northern edge of the Great Forest, the ridges on the northwest, toward Meacham Lake, are thickly wooded, and, during each season, a large number of deer are driven thence into Rainbow Lake and its connecting streams.

The fishing here is also good, the lake having been well stocked from the State Hatchery near by. It is claimed that a "laker," weighing fifty-two pounds, was caught in these waters; if so, this place should have credit for the largest trout on record. The Adirondack and St. Lawrence Railroad runs close to the lake, and has a station at this point.

From Rainbow Lake the route runs through Lilypad Pond, whose surface is so thickly covered with the broad, flat leaves

of the water lily that a boat is pulled through it only by hard work; thence, through the waters of Round Lake, whose inlet is lined with bare, dead trunks of trees which were killed by the dam at its outlet; thence through Mud Lake to a road, a mile or more in length, leading to Chase's hotel at the south-eastern end of Loon Lake.

From Mud Lake there is a water communication with Loon Lake through the outlet of the latter, and thence across Loon Lake to the landing at Chase's; but this outlet is seldom navigable for guide-boats, and so the tourist steps ashore at the road near the outlet of Mud Lake. The long journey ends at Chase's, and here the tourist says good-by to his trusty guide with a feeling of friendship stronger than that of passing acquaintance.

The route thus described runs through the central line of the Great Forest and Adirondack Park. Owing to the winding streams, and long detour at Raquette Lake, it is 102 miles from Blue Mountain to Loon Lake, the trip requiring four days of steady traveling. It is best divided as follows:

	Miles.
(1) Blue Mountain Lake to Long Lake Village.....	33
(2) Long Lake Village to Wawbeek.....	28
(3) Wawbeek to Paul Smith's	22
(4) Paul Smith's to Loon Lake	19
	<hr/>
	102
	<hr/>

This journey can be made by ladies without fatigue, or lack of suitable hotel accommodations. No baggage beyond one small handbag should be taken, while thick shoes for muddy carries and waterproof garments, in case of rain, will be a wise provision. On the first day's journey, time may be saved by going in the steamer from Blue Mountain as far as Forked Lake Carry, the guide's boat being carried on the "roof" of the little steamer. Otherwise, it will prove a long, hard day's work for the guide, as there is no suitable stopping place for the night short of Helms', on Long Lake, thirty-one miles from Blue Mountain.

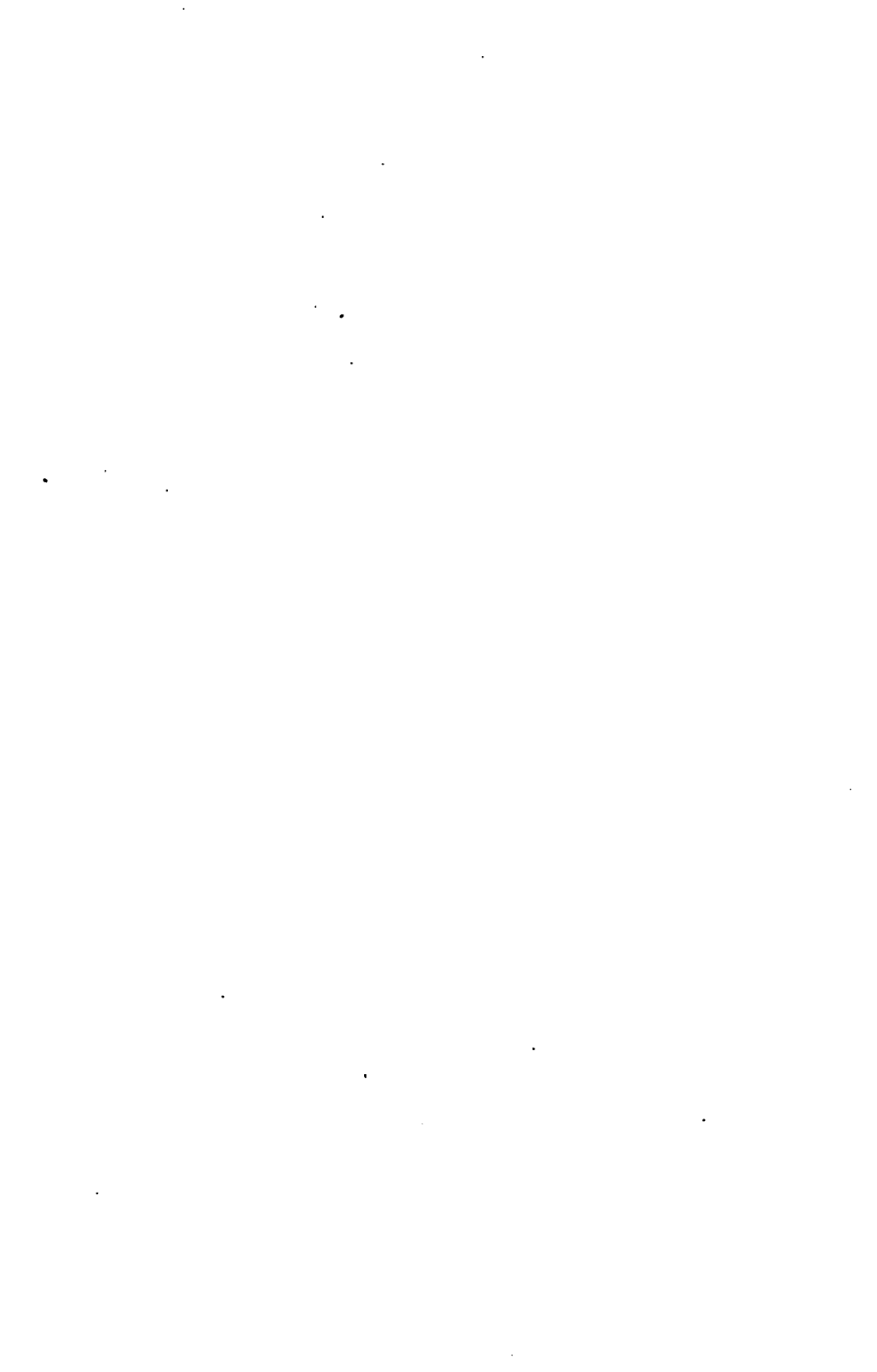
Having rested at Loon Lake, a short ride on a first-class six-horse coach brings one to the Chateaugay Railroad station, at the head of the lake, where the cars may be taken for Plattsburgh, fifty-four miles distant. The Adirondack and St. Lawrence Railroad also has a station here, by which the exit may be made by way of Malone, twenty-six miles distant, or southward on a through train to Albany and New York.

The preceding pages relate only to a part of the vast territory within the Adirondack Park, and describe only a central belt running north and south. To fully understand the many questions connected with the study and management of the Great Forest, it must be traversed in the opposite direction as well, following the central belt which runs east and west. And so some information is offered regarding the various localities along what may be termed the

LOWER SARANAC, TUPPER LAKES, AND BEAVER RIVER ROUTE.

Leaving Albany, the summer tourist takes the Delaware and Hudson Railroad, and then proceeds to Plattsburgh via Lake George and Lake Champlain, a ride which is unsurpassed in its varied and beautiful scenery. From Plattsburgh the Chateaugay Railroad leads to the Lower Saranac Lake, seventy miles, crossing the northern boundary of the proposed State Park, at Bloomingdale Station. The Chazy and Chateaugay Lakes are passed on the way, beautiful sheets of water with picturesque shores; but these lakes are no longer within the Great Forest. The encroachment of agriculture, and the denudation consequent upon the charcoal burning and extensive iron industries along the road have, with the exception of scattered tracts of woodland, pushed the line of the main forest back to the Lower Saranac Lake. But from the latter point the Great Forest extends westward in one unbroken stretch for seventy-five miles to the Lewis County line.

Chazy Lake, which is over four miles long, contains plenty of fish, both lake trout and brook trout, and during the fishing season in the spring attracts a large number of fishermen. Deer are also killed here each season. Some very pleasant cottages





S. R. Stoddard, Photo

CHATEAUGAY LAKE.

have recently been built in the woods along its eastern shore, and during the heated months it has its colony of summer residents. Years ago the forests around this lake were entirely cut off for charcoal burning; but a heavy second growth of deciduous trees has covered the surrounding hills, and as the charcoal process for making iron has been abandoned in this vicinity, there is a prospect that this land will still further reforest itself. The Chazy River, which rises in this lake, takes its name from *Sieur Chazy*, a young nobleman who was an officer in the famous French regiment, *Carignan-Salieres*, the first body of regulars sent to Canada. While hunting in the woods near the mouth of the river with a party of officers he was surprised and killed, with others in the party, by a band of Iroquois Indians. This occurred in 1666, and gave rise to what is known in the colonial histories as the second French and Indian War. Chazy Lake is easily accessible from the Chateaugay Railroad, which runs along its southern shore, the steamer landing being only a few rods from the railroad station. A road leads from the lower end of the lake to *Dannemora*, five miles distant, offering a pleasant drive, the view of Lake Champlain and its islands, from the mountain overlooking *Dannemora*, being a superb one. This view embraces also the valley of the *Saranac*, the *Green Mountains* of Vermont, and the *Whiteface Range* of the *Adirondacks*. On a clear day one can hardly believe that Lake Champlain is sixteen miles distant, its wooded islands and blue waters seem so near.

The Chateaugay Lakes—Upper and Lower—although no longer within the lines of the Adirondack Forest, are well surrounded by woods. In attractive scenery, good hotels, hunting and fishing, they will compare favorably with other localities in the Adirondacks. They are quickly reached from the Chateaugay Railroad, a good road leading from the station at *Lyon Mountain*, distant three and one-half miles. The Upper Lake is the larger, being five miles long by two wide; the Lower Lake is about two and one-half miles long and one mile wide. They are connected by a water channel called the *Narrows*, which is four miles long and from twelve to fifty rods wide, affording an

uninterrupted stretch of boating for eleven miles, with charming views throughout the entire distance. A small steamer plies upon this route. These lakes take their names from the river into which their waters run, which derived its name from the "Chateaugai," a mansion or castle that once stood upon its banks near the mouth of the river, where it enters the St. Lawrence opposite Montreal. The Chateaugay Chasm, a gorge resembling closely that of the Ausable, is near Chateaugay village, a station on the Ogdensburg and Lake Champlain Railroad, about seven miles from the foot of the Lower Lake, and reached by a line of Concord coaches.

The Lower Saranac Lake, on account of its accessibility by railroad, excellent hotels, and charming scenery, has become the most popular summer resort in the entire wilderness. The lake has an altitude of 1,539 feet, which, with the hygienic advantages of the surrounding forests, has made it a favorite spot for invalids suffering from pulmonary disease.

THE ADIRONDACK COTTAGE SANITARIUM.

is situated on a high hill within a mile of Saranac Lake Village, its site commanding a magnificent view of mountains, as yet covered to their very summits with evergreen forests. There are several buildings belonging to the institution, a central one containing the office, dining-room, parlor, billiard hall, etc., with neighboring cottages, in each of which there are rooms for two or more persons. It is the pioneer institution of its kind in this country, and is duly incorporated.

Though within easy access by rail of many large eastern cities it offers climatic advantages which can only be equaled by the most famous and distant health resorts. It represents the first organized attempt made in this country to cure or arrest incipient consumption, and to put climate within the reach of persons of moderate means. It offers to patients the benefits of climatic treatment, a systematic open-air life, hygienic habits, and suitable medical treatment, these being now recognized as the best and only means of curing incipient consumption.

The Sanitarium is a semi-charitable institution; that is, a charge of five dollars per week, which covers everything but



S. H. Stoddard, Photo.

ADIRONDACK COTTAGE SANITARIUM.
Saranac Lake, N. Y.

medicine, is made to each patient, and the deficit in the running expenses of the institution is made up by annual subscriptions. Each year, any surplus on hand is put aside as a nucleus for an endowment fund.

It treats annually from 120 to 130 patients, and its annual reports show that twenty-five per cent of these are apparently cured; while twenty-five to thirty per cent more are sufficiently restored in health to resume their work or support themselves by their own efforts while living in a suitable climate. Starting nine years ago with less than \$6,000 as its total assets, the Sanitarium has met with most generous support. Its history has thus far been one of steady and rapid growth and expansion in all its departments. It is free from debt, has a small free bed fund, and a growing nucleus for an endowment fund. It bids fair to do good work in the future as a practical attempt at relieving a form of human suffering for which little has ever been undertaken.

Information regarding the sanitary benefits of the Great Forest is so largely sought after, that at the risk of repetition, we quote from one of our previous reports:

"The sanitary value of our forests can not be over-estimated. In addition to their furnishing a summer resort for the overcrowded population of our towns and cities, a place where rest, recuperation and vigor may be gained by our highly nervous and overworked people, the healthful and purifying influence of coniferous forests has been thoroughly established. The belief that the atmosphere of evergreen forests has a curative effect upon persons suffering from pulmonary phthisis, is a very old one. The old Romans sent patients with ulcerated lungs to Libria, where, by breathing the balsamic emanations of the pines, with which the country abounded, they are said to have lived many years freed from their complaints.

"The testimony, based on personal, careful and scientific investigation of such men as Dr. E. L. Trudeau, of Saranac, can not be set aside. Himself an invalid, restored to health by forest life, he has devoted himself to the question of environment, in its relation to tuberculosis, and by experiment on living animals has

demonstrated the value of the terebinthine forests of the Adirondack region as a factor in warding off pulmonary diseases. He says that:

"Twenty-five per cent of the patients sent to the Adirondacks suffering from incipient consumption come back cured, a proportion only surpassed by the State of Colorado. As a sanitarium for the State and city of New York alone, the value of this region is inestimable, and many professional men will be at a loss where to send their suffering patients who are unable to pay the expenses of a trip to Colorado or California, unless some steps be immediately taken to save the State this heritage that should be preserved for the people."

Dr. Alfred L. Loomis, of New York (an eminent authority), has also given valuable scientific testimony to the value of evergreen forests as a therapeutic agent in lung affections. He writes:

"Having long since been convinced by my observations that evergreen forests have a powerful purifying effect upon the surrounding atmosphere, and that it is rendered antiseptic by the chemical combinations which are constantly going on in them, I invite attention to some conditions which may explain their therapeutic power. Such ambiguous terms as 'balsamic influence,' 'health-giving emanations,' and 'aromanized atmosphere' must be regarded as empty phrases, and meaningless as scientific explanations. The clinical evidence, however, of the beneficial effects of pine forests on phthisical subjects is unquestionable. The changes attributable to the persistent inhalation of air impregnated with the emanations of evergreen forests are such as to indicate that the atmosphere is not only aseptic but antiseptic, made antiseptic by some element which is not alone fatal to germ life, but at the same time is stimulant and tonic to normal physiological processes within the lungs. We are led to the conclusion that this antiseptic element of evergreen forests, an element which is not found elsewhere, is the product of the atmospheric oxidization of turpentine. It is evident that the local and constitutional effects of turpentine are those of a powerful germicide, as well as a stimulant. Its presence in the atmosphere of the pine forests can not be questioned. Again, ozone is said to be present in excess in the air of evergreen forests, and the beneficial effects of such an air have been ascribed to this substance alone. But it seems evident that there is a close relation between an excess of ozone in the atmosphere and turpentine exhalation.

"Recent developments in the treatment of phthisis by gaseous injections, if they are found beneficial, are apparently due to the arrest of septic poisoning, and not to the destruction of the tubercle bacilli. It is my belief that the atmosphere of evergreen forests acts in a similar manner, and facts seem to prove that the antiseptic agent which so successfully arrests putrefactive processes, and septic poisoning, is the peroxide of hydrogen, formed by the atmospheric exudation of turpentine vapors. It is stated that whenever the pine, with its constant exhalation of turpentine vapor and its never failing foliage can be distributed in a proper proportion to the population, the atmosphere can be kept not only aseptic, but antiseptic by nature's own processes, independent of other influences, than a certain amount of sunshine and moisture. It is not possible for every one to take his weak lungs to an antiseptic air, but it is possible to render the air of most localities antiseptic. I would, therefore, impress on the public the importance of preserving our evergreen forests, and of cultivating about our homes evergreen trees."

The Lower Saranac Lake is six miles long, and in places nearly two miles wide. Its outlet lies on the eastern side of the lake, midway its length, instead of at the end, its waters flowing into the Saranac River and thence to Lake Champlain at Plattsburgh. Though the outlet is on the side of the lake, the stream bends to the north within a mile of the eastern end, and flows through the village of Saranac Lake.* This place is about one mile from the lake, is the terminus of the Chateaugay Railroad, and is the largest village within the lines of the Adirondack Park.

The lake, with the exception of a small portion at its eastern end, is situated in Township 24, four-fifths of which is owned by the State. After rowing a short distance from the hotels at the eastern end, the line is reached beyond which the entire remainder of the lake, its shores, islands, and adjacent forests, are owned by the State. Though its scenery is considered by some as inferior to that of the Upper Saranac, it has strong points of beauty, the many islands scattered through it adding greatly to its attractions, and furnishing charming camp-sites. Next to Lake George it has the most islands of any lake in the State,

* In addressing letters care must be taken, as, in addition to "Saranac Lake," there is a "Saranac," Clinton County, and a "Saranac Inn," Franklin County, N. Y., all three of these Saranac post-offices being in the Adirondack region.

there being over fifty, including some bare rocks which here and there rise above its surface. But there are many large, well-wooded islands whose shady thickets make good tenting-grounds, and which are open to the public. It is the wish of the Commission that these islands and shores should be occupied by the tents of summer campers, and the people are urged to avail themselves of the advantages and benefits which they afford. The only restrictions imposed are that trees and saplings shall not be cut or injured, and that the campers shall limit themselves to the use of tents. No structures of a permanent character, or buildings of any kind whatever, will be permitted, except on camp-sites for which written leases have been obtained from the Forest Commission.

The mountain views from this lake are good. Looking eastward, Whiteface and other mountains loom up in the distance; while, on the south, Mount Ampersand rises grandly in the immediate vicinity. Behind the latter mountain lies Ampersand* Pond, a gem of the wilderness, embosomed in mountain slopes, and surrounded by grand forests. This little lake is nearly round, about one mile wide, and is embellished with two beautiful islands. It is reached by going down the outlet of the Lower Saranac Lake to its junction with Cold Brook; thence, by pushing the boat up the shallow waters of that creek for about one mile; and, thence, by a five-mile trail over a rugged spur of Ampersand Mountain. Aside from its beauty, this little lake has attained considerable fame by reason of the "philosopher's camp" which Professor Agassiz once established on its shore. He erected a roomy, substantial log building, and, in company with Lowell, Emerson, Holmes, and others, a club was formed with the intention of making this a summer home. But, after buying the township, which was obtained for a trifling amount, Agassiz lost his title through the intricacies of tax sales and redemptions. Dissatisfied with this transaction, he abandoned

* The name Ampersand was first given to the Ampersand Brook whose winding course at one place describes a letter &, or Ampersand, as this character is called. The mountain took its name from the brook or lake; and recently this strange word has become familiar throughout the woods by reason of its adoption by a popular Adirondack hotel.





**RUNNING THE RAPIDS,
Saranac River.**

S. R. Stoddard, Photo.

the project, and, leaving his building with its various camp effects behind, never returned. Headley, the historian, once made a trip to this spot, and occupied the abandoned camp for a week or more while deer hunting. Referring to one of the evenings passed there, he says:

“Night came on with a cold, lashing rain. The tall trees swayed and roared overhead, and utter darkness settled on the camp. Amid the rustling rain on the leaves, and the surging blast, came at intervals the mournful cry of the loon, and I sat and wondered how Agassiz and his aristocratic friends of ‘The Hub’ amused themselves on such a night as this. Did they talk learnedly of philosophy and poetry, and fill this lonely cabin with strange thoughts and lofty sentiments, or did they sit in their shirt-sleeves and smoke pipes and talk fish and deer like any loafer? Judging from my own experience, I thought more probably the latter.”

But the trip to Ampersand Pond is no easy one; and, though it may be made by persons sojourning in the vicinity, it is better omitted by the passing tourist.

Passing up the lake the stream is entered which connects the Lower Saranac and the Middle Saranac Lakes. This connecting stream is about three miles long, and is also known as the Saranac River. It is narrow and very crooked. About one mile above the lower lake are some short rapids, with a fall of ten feet or so within as many rods. Formerly the guide boats, in descending the stream, used to “shoot” these rapids, the operation forming a novel and exciting incident of the trip. Unfortunately some genius conceived the idea not long ago that a steamboat on the lower lake was a necessity, and that a lock placed here would facilitate navigation. An appropriation was granted by the Legislature for this purpose, and the work was undertaken. The lock was built, but it is an absolute failure, and is not used for any purpose whatever. It prevents the guide boats from descending the rapids, as formerly done, and necessitates a carry in going down as well as in going up the stream. It was never needed, is useless as it is, and the money appropriated will be better expended in removing it as a needless obstruction.

Resuming the ascent of the river, the Middle Saranac is reached without further delay. This lake is nearly round, and has a diameter of three miles. It is known, also, as Round Lake; but as there are several Round lakes and Round ponds within the Great Forest, the sooner this name is dropped the better. For this reason the official map just issued by the Forest Commission designates this lake as the Middle Saranac. There is a Round Lake near Lake Pleasant, in the southern part of Hamilton County, which is equal in every respect, if not superior, to the Round Lake of the Saranacs. Still, the Middle Saranac is a handsome sheet of water, with bold, mountainous shores, and contains some large, pleasant islands. The lake and its islands are State property, and the Ampersand Mountain which rises grandly from its southern shore is also a part of the Forest Preserve. This mountain, which has been named, with good reason, "the Rigi of America," is ascended by a trail leading from the lower sand beach on the southeastern side of the lake. Travelers tarrying in this vicinity should not fail to make a journey to its summit.

The botanist who crosses this lake will be interested in the giant rushes (*scirpus lacustris*) growing on the sandbars at the eastern side near the outlet, some of which are sixteen feet long and over one inch in diameter.

A well-known peculiarity of the Middle Saranac is the high wind which is encountered here at times when the surrounding lakes are calm. For some reason, as yet unexplained, its surface is quickly agitated, and, for heavily laden skiffs, the trip across is often attended with danger or delay. In the summer of 1890, a gentleman on his way to the Upper Saranac was storm-bound here, and, with his guide, was obliged to pass the night unsheltered on the narrow neck of land which, at a point on the eastern shore, separates the lake from its outlet. In order that no other traveler should suffer a like inconvenience, this philanthropic tourist sent money to his guide, and instructed him to erect a small building or storm-house at this point, which would furnish shelter for such unlucky travelers as might be caught by the treacherous winds that here seem ever ready to pounce

upon the unwary sportsman. The building had not been up a month before the sides of its interior were penciled over with names of the travelers who had availed themselves of its protection, together with dates, mention of storms, and expressions of thanks. It is a small shanty, built of rough boards, with no furniture except an old cooking stove, and, though erected on State land, will be allowed to remain. In fact, two officials of the Commission were very glad to avail themselves of its shelter one day last summer, to avoid a sudden gale which well-nigh swamped their boat. Hurrying inside, they found the "hospice" already occupied by a gentleman and two guides who were traveling in the opposite direction, bound for the Upper Saranac. The Middle Saranac is scarcely ever calm, and its lively breezes seem to be ever blowing, and blowing in every direction. It should be named "Lake Eolus."

Passing out of the lake between two huge rocks at its western end the Saranac River is again entered, and a pull of half a mile or so up its shallow waters brings the boat to Bartlett's Carry, a short portage leading around a dam to the outlet of Upper Saranac Lake. This carry takes its name from Virgil Bartlett, an Adirondack pioneer who built a hotel at this place in 1854, and who figures conspicuously in the literature pertaining to the earlier history of this region. Though the State owns the surrounding territory for several miles on either side, the land around this carry is private property, Bartlett having purchased 267 acres, and kept his taxes paid on the same. After his death the property passed into the hands of the Saranac Club, who allowed the hotel to remain for the accommodation of the public so far as it might not be needed for their own use. The hotel was burned recently, but was rebuilt last year. There is considerable cleared land near it, on which hay and vegetables for the use of the club are raised. The dam is at the head of the rapids, above the club-house, and is described in the tax records as the State Dam or Norton's Dam. A saw-mill standing there suggests that, as in many other cases, the dam originated in private interest rather than in any need on the part of the State.

From Bartlett's, the route to Tupper Lake lies across the south end of Upper Saranac Lake to either the Indian Carry or Sweeney's Carry, both of which lead to the Raquette River. The Sweeney Carry, leading from the Wawbeek to Tromblee's on the Raquette, is three miles long, but it saves twelve miles of travel and four hours time. The Indian Carry, however, is preferable, unless one is pressed for time. It is three-quarters of a mile long, and although it involves a longer distance, the route affords an observation of the Raquette River for several miles, which would be lost in going by the Sweeney Carry.

Choosing the Indian Carry, a short walk over a pleasant road leads to the Stony Creek Ponds; and here the night should be passed preparatory to the long boat ride of thirty-three miles through river and lake by which the head of Big Tupper is reached without taking the skiff out of the water. The hotel at Stony Creek Pond is on State land, and although the occupant did not own the land, the action of the assessors in assessing the land as non-resident was made the basis of an application to the Comptroller for taking the land away from the State, and with it the 6,000 acres in the Southeast quarter of Township 23, of which it forms a part. Owing to its advantageous location on all these carries, and its long water frontage on the Middle and Upper Saranac Lakes, this property is worth \$40,000. Through the courtesy of the Comptroller, this application, also, was referred to the Forest Commission, whose attorney was accordingly instructed to ask the Comptroller for a hearing in the case, and to use every measure within the law to prevent the loss of this valuable tract.*

The Stony Creek Ponds, at which the journey commences, are frequently alluded to as the Spectacle Ponds, although there is little or nothing in their outlines which would suggest the name. There are three other lakes known as the Spectacles — one near Paul Smith's, one in Fulton County, and one near Schroon Lake, each of which has outlines that would better warrant the name.

From Stony Creek Ponds, the crooked outlet known as Stony Creek leads to the Raquette River four miles distant by water.

* The application was granted, however, and the State lost its title to the property.

Before reaching the river the creek is joined by the Ampersand Brook, and many stories are told of tourists and inexperienced guides who, mistaking the channel at this point, pull up this brook a long way before their error becomes apparent, a mistake which is easily made in going up the stream.

Passing out of Stony Creek and its troublesome boating with a feeling of relief, the Raquette River is reached, and the boat glides pleasantly down its winding course. The shores are well wooded, but low, and they show signs of the damage caused by the dam at Raquette Pond. This ride down the Raquette River from Stony Creek to the outlet of Raquette River is twenty-one miles long. Five miles from Stony Creek is the outlet of Follensby's Pond, a well-known hunting region. This pond, or lake, is three miles long, and was named for a famous recluse who once lived there, and whose strange life has furnished material for several romantic, wonderful stories. Another pond bearing the singular name of "Follensby, Jr.," is situated near Paul Smith's Station, on the Northern Adirondack Railroad; while still another, known as "Follensby Clear," is situated near the Upper Saranac Lake and but a short distance from the Saranac Inn. Eight miles below the Follensby outlet are some rapids where the swift current is obstructed by rocks, which make the boating somewhat difficult and dangerous. One mile below the rapids the stream bends sharply, and, running in an opposite direction for nearly one mile, makes a long loop, with a narrow neck of land sixty-six feet wide, across which a canal has been dug, saving nearly two miles of travel. Further on another "cut off" is made by passing through a short canal leading into Simons' Pond, and thence through the outlet of this pond into the river again. But the distance saved by the latter deviation is small, and in low water it is not practicable.

Before reaching this place the serious and extensive damage caused by the dam arrests the eye, presenting one of the saddest and most desolate pictures of destruction ever witnessed. No forest fire, or devastating cyclone, or ruthless axe of the charcoal burner, ever wrought such ruin or left such a blasted scene

as this. For ten miles the lands along the Raquette River are covered with the white and ghastly skeletons of the noble trees which once made this spot a sylvan paradise. The bare trunks, bleached by the sun and storm, the gnarled roots, and gray, scrawny limbs thrust sharply forth, recall to mind one of the pictures in Dore's "Inferno." The traveler gazes on it all with amazement, and then gives vent to the strongest words that a righteous indignation can supply.

And this was once one of the most beautiful rivers in all the wilderness. The hunter's boat floated down its winding stream beneath the leafy arches of its overhanging trees, by mossy banks decked with wild flowers, and over waters whose murmuring sound was mingled with the song of birds. And now there is the slimy, desolate waste, the black, sluggish stream, and a weird stillness, broken only by the croak of the raven.

This destruction was caused by a dam, sixteen feet high, which was placed two miles below Raquette Pond, and whose back flow extended up the river for fourteen miles, or more. The dam was built by the State, in 1869, to assist the lumbermen in driving logs on the lower Raquette. It was filled for the first time in the spring of 1870; but, owing to faulty construction, part of the structure was carried away by the water the same spring, inflicting some damage below, especially in the village of Potsdam. It was rebuilt during the summer, but proved to be a failure. The lumbermen did not derive enough benefit from it to warrant the expense of keeping it in repair. The superstructure in time became rotten, although the foundation remained sound. In the summer of 1889, Mr. W. E. LaFountain, firewarden of the town of Waverly, in which the dam is situated, made an application to the town board of health for an order to remove the dam, alleging in his complaint that the overflow from it caused malaria, typhoid fever, etc.

The board of health of Waverly consulted the State Board of Health at Albany, by whom they were advised that it was a matter of consideration for the town board; and that the town board had full power to act in the matter. After a careful examination of the matter the town board issued an order to

LaFountain to remove the dam, as a public nuisance. With the assistance of inhabitants living in the vicinity he removed most of the obstruction, or enough to prevent the river overflowing its natural banks.

But, recently, some parties have rebuilt the dam to a height of ten feet, in order to facilitate the navigation of Raquette Pond and Tupper Lake by some small steam launches which are already running on these waters. This was entirely unnecessary; for the money and labor might have been better expended in dredging a shallow channel for their little steamers. The Forest Commission are powerless to act in this matter, for the dam is not on State land, nor does it overflow any land belonging to the State. The Commission can only protest against it, and do what it can to call public attention to the matter.

The parties interested in the rebuilding of this dam argue that the damage from overflow is already done, and that no further harm can result from rebuilding it. But this is not so. Farming operations have been commenced on the drowned lands, and if protected from future overflow these flats will be converted into grass lands. In one place this had already been done. Near Simons' Pond some men have been at work in cutting the dead trees and logging them up in piles, preparatory to burning them. If there is no further damming of the water these unsightly river bottoms will soon be converted into green fields. The once beautiful scenery of the river can never be restored, but a great improvement on its present condition can be made.

Following the sluggish flow of the river as it winds along among the denuded lands, the outlet of Big Tupper Lake is reached. Looking north, across the waste of waters and flooded lands, the newly-built village of Tupper Lake is in plain view. The Northern Adirondack has its southern terminus at this place, and a large saw-mill erected here recently affords employment for a great number of people. The village has grown rapidly, its hastily erected buildings and freshly graded streets reminding one strongly of the Pennsylvania oil regions, or western mining towns. The name of this beautiful lake was once suggestive of primeval forests and their solitude. But

Tupper Lake is no longer in the wilderness. Now there are locomotives, saw-mills, steamboats, huge piles of logs skidded on its shores, and the cheap surroundings of a pioneer civilization.

Still, much of its former beauty remains, and it offers a pleasant contrast to the desolate river at its outlet. It is seven miles long, quite broad, and is 1,554 feet above tide, or 247 feet lower than the headwaters of the Raquette River at Blue Mountain Lake. It contains forty-two islands, great and small, one of which is seven-eighths of a mile long. It is known as Long Island; also, as County Island, the line between Franklin and St. Lawrence Counties passing across it diagonally. Bluff Island is the handsomest one, its western shore rising in a perpendicular wall of rock, eighty feet high, known as the Devil's Pulpit. There is quite a fund of Indian traditions and hunting stories connected with this rock which the guides are wont to rehearse as they pull by. Mount Morris, 3,000 feet high, stands near the eastern shore, and a lesser peak known as Arab Mountain rises on the northeast. The shores are clean and rocky, with here and there long walls of smooth stone on whose face the horizontal water-marks indicate the rise and fall of the lake. The lumbermen have been busy here cutting spruce and hemlock, and the appearance of the shores is marred by the many skidways which line the bank.

The Tupper Lakes were named in compliment to a surveyor of that name, who was associated with Mr. Mitchell in the survey of Macomb's Purchase, and its subdivision into the Great Tracts.

The most attractive feature of the scenery on Big Tupper is found at the Bog River Falls, which are situated on the inlet at the southern or upper end of the lake. Here the Bog River empties into the lake, and, dashing over a sloping ledge, is broken into foaming, beautiful cascades. There is a remarkable spring near these falls, on the west side of the lake, which is a favorite stopping place for guides and sportsmen. It is quite large, over six feet in diameter, with a bottom of clean, white sand, through which its crystal waters boil and bubble to the surface. Climbing the stone steps in the path which leads around the falls the Bog River is reached, from which a backward look affords a most

charming view of the lake and its surroundings, a bit of scenery said by many Adirondack travelers to be without its equal in the whole region.

Some writers have alluded to the Bog River as a gloomy, uninteresting stream. Nevertheless, the trip through it is a pleasant ride. Owing to the discoloration of its water, the most remarkable reflections may be seen on its dark, mirror-like surface. Every leaf and tree, tint and color, mound and rock along its shores are painted on its surface with a wonderful, surprising accuracy. The reflected outlines seem even clearer and sharper than the objects themselves as seen upon the banks; and, looking over the side of the boat, one can peer into the dim recesses of the forest as far as when looking directly at the woods themselves. Reflections of scenery are a familiar feature of the Adirondack waters; but the best acquainted tourist in all that region will be surprised at the magic mirror which, under proper conditions of sky and water, is here revealed to view. This phenomenal reflection, which, by the way, seems to have escaped the notice of the various Adirondack writers, is seen at its best between the hours of 7 and 9 of a clear, quiet morning.

Two miles above the falls the stream divides, the river bending sharply to the right, and leading to the Bog River Chain, and Mud Lake. The latter, which is a marsh rather than a lake, is famous for its abundance of deer and other game; and moose were found here long after they had become extinct in every other part of the Great Forest. But the lakes of the Bog River Chain are reached only by several tiresome carries, the country about them is flat and marshy, and though a desirable camping ground for sportsmen, it offers no attractions to tourists.

Leaving the Bog River at the junction, the boats ascend the left-hand stream on their way to Little Tupper Lake, and after going a short distance arrive at the two-mile "draw" which leads by a pleasant, shady road to Round Pond. This sheet of water is nearly two miles wide, contains three islands, and its outline approaches a circle more closely than any other of the

many lakes or ponds known by this name. From here Little Tupper Lake is reached by ascending a narrow, crooked inlet, called The Slang, a word taken from the guides' vocabulary, and which is sometimes used by them in describing a stream of this character. This "Slang" winds through a tamarack swamp for about one mile.

Little Tupper Lake is nearly six miles long, and is about two miles wide, with an elevation of 1,728 feet above tide. There are several islands scattered through it, and it has pleasant winding shores; but its scenery is without any distinctive features, and makes but little impression. There are no mountains in its vicinity; but in clear weather the main peaks of the Adirondacks, though forty miles distant, stand out clearly defined along the eastern horizon. The surrounding forests have not been injured by fire or axe, and the dark foliage of the conifers extends in every direction, the Norway pine being conspicuous along the lake and its vicinity. Owing to its remote location the hunting and fishing is good. Still, there is only one hotel, and but few camps on this lake. There is some travel from Long Lake to this place by way of the Slim Pond Chain, whose headwaters are only one mile distant by a carry from the east side of the lake.

In going from Little Tupper Lake to the Beaver River country, the direct route leads up the outlet of Charley Pond. On entering this stream some large printed placards, conspicuously posted, arrest attention. They read as follows:

PRIVATE PROPERTY.

This is an entrance to a Private Park, composed of Townships 37, 38, Triangle North of 38, in Hamilton County, and Townships 42 and 43, Herkimer County. Camping, building fires, or in any way disturbing the Fish or Game on the above property is strictly forbidden.

NE-HA-SA-NE PARK ASSOCIATION.

TRESPASS NOTICE.

All persons are strictly forbidden to trespass upon these grounds. Any violation of the above will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. The waters of Smith's Lake are also included in this notice.

NE-HA-SA-NE PARK.

CAUTION.

The hotels on Smith Lake and at Munsey's are closed. No one will be permitted under any circumstances to camp on Smith's or Albany Lake, or in that vicinity.

NE-HA-SA-NE PARK ASSOCIATION.

The north shore of Little Tupper Lake, and the entrance to Charley Pond outlet, are on the boundary line which separates Townships 36 and 37; and so the notice of another club is seen near by which reads thus:

PRIVATE PARK.

All persons are hereby warned against trespassing on these grounds under penalty of the Law — Township No. 36, west one-half — Township No. 35, Totten & Crossfield Purchase.

By order of the

HAMILTON PARK COMPANY.

The latter notice is of doubtful validity so far as it relates to Township 35, for the State has a joint ownership in nearly all that township.* But the parties who posted the other notices own the large territory specified, and the placards are in accordance with the requirements of the law relating to trespass. From the line of Township 37, where this preserve is entered, it is over a day's journey through it; and, as there are no hotels along the route, the tourists and sportsmen going to the Beaver River will have to encamp within its lines. "Permits" for this purpose are granted by the owner of the park, and may be had on application.

It should be stated in this connection that these trespass signs are fast becoming a prominent feature of the Adirondacks. They meet the eye wherever one crosses land that is not owned by the State. On the old and long-traveled carry between the Blue Mountain and Raquette Lakes the traveler now passes

* The State's title has recently been canceled.

through a strong gateway over which is conspicuously posted the sign, "PRIVATE ROAD. NO THOROUGHFARE."

The outlet of Charley Pond is three miles long, and winds through a marsh. Its stream grows more and more narrow until the guide is obliged to abandon his oars, and, kneeling in the bow of his boat pull it along by grasping the bushes which rasp its sides. But before the pond is reached the stream becomes impassable, and a carry of half a mile becomes necessary. Charley Pond is a pretty but lonesome looking place, no houses or camps being in sight. It takes its name from a guide, Charley Brown, who, while hunting here one winter, fell through the ice and was drowned or frozen to death. Having crossed the pond, a carry two miles long leads by a very pleasant forest path to the watershed of the Beaver River, and down to the sandy shore of Smith's Lake. This sheet of water is three miles long, but very irregular in its outline. Its elevation above the sea is the same as that of Little Tupper Lake, which lies six miles distant on the opposite side of the watershed. It contains several islands, and is one of the most beautiful lakes in the Great Forest. Several small ponds unsurpassed for fishing and hunting are situated close by, some of them with outlets entering this lake. A short carry to the north leads to Clear Pond and Bog Lake, the headwaters of the Bog River chain, by which route Big Tupper Lake can be reached.

The inlet of the lake is on the southern shore. By ascending this inlet a chain of ponds is reached, including Deer, Little Rock, West, and Shingle Shanty Ponds, on one branch; and on the other, Lilypad Pond, Salmon Lake, and Lonesome Pond, the latter being one of the sources of the Beaver River.

The only building on Smith's Lake is the small hotel at its western end, and this has lately been closed. It is now occupied by the head gamekeeper of this preserve.* But long before this lake is reached, the tourists and summer hotels have been left behind, and the wilderness here asserts itself in all its solitude

* The old hotel has been removed and its site now occupied by a large and elegant club house.

and primeval beauty. The appearance of seclusion, which is one of its great charms, is somewhat marred, however, by the newly-built railroad which now skirts its northern shore.

Smith's Lake derives its name from David Smith, a hunter who once lived here, and led a strange, hermit life. He came up the Beaver River in 1820, or thereabouts, and for ten years lived alone and in solitude at Stillwater. He then pushed farther on into the wilderness, and, in 1830, built a log shanty on the shore of this lake, which he occupied for fifteen years; but, on the appearance of other hunters and trappers, he abandoned his camp, and went, it is said, to the far west. One account states that he was an Englishman, who lived here with no companions but his dogs and gun, and that "one winter some hunters in pursuit of deer, upon visiting his cabin, found it silent and deserted." Another says, "that in early life Smith married a wife whom he tenderly loved and cared for, but who died shortly after their marriage. Her untimely death sent him a hermit into the depths of this forest, where he could brood in solitude and silence over his great grief."

Many interesting stories are still told of the strange deeds and eccentricities of this old trapper. His cabin stood near the beach on the north shore, at the foot of Pratt's Mountain, and the clearing which he made can still be traced, although it is now covered with a second growth of young trees.

The Ne-ha-sa-ne Park Association which owns this lake, and the country for several miles around it, has changed its name to Lake Lila; and it is so designated on the maps of the various surveys which lately have been made in that region. But for years to come the guides will allude to it as Smith's Lake, and tell the story of the hermit who lived upon its shores.

The outlet of the lake is about three miles long, and leads into Albany Lake. Its channel is obstructed at one point by the remains of an old State dam which was erected here in 1865, and which, with some rapids below it, necessitates a carry of half a mile or more. This dam was built in accordance with an act of Legislature, which appropriated \$10,000 for "clearing and

improving (?) the rafting channel of Beaver River, by the construction of piers, booms, and dams."

Albany Lake is noted for the abundance of deer and trout which the sportsman can always find here; but, in appearance, it is far inferior to Smith's Lake. There are some pleasant camping grounds along the shores at its upper end, but its outlet is surrounded by low, sandy shores, and stretches of shallow water filled with rushes and lily pads. The area of its water surface is about the same as that of its neighbor, but it differs greatly in shape. The upper part is circular, with well-wooded banks, and a narrow opening which, in going west, is mistaken at first sight for its outlet, but which leads into another portion of the lake. It takes its name from an old State highway, once known as the Albany Road, that crossed it near its outlet.

The name of this lake, also, has been changed by its new proprietors from Albany Lake to Ne-ha-sa-ne Lake, the latter appellation being the Indian name for the Beaver River, and meaning "crossing on a log."

After rowing through a wide expanse of rushes and aquatic vegetation at the foot of the lake the Beaver River is entered. The channel of the Beaver commences at this place, although the stream connecting Smith's and Albany Lakes may also be considered as a part of this river.

After going a short distance the current is so filled with rocks that a carry of three-fourths of a mile must be made, after which there is a delightful ride to Little Rapids. There was a small hotel here, known as "Munsey's;" but it was closed by the Nehasane Park Association, whose domain includes this township also. Now that the public houses at Munsey's and at Smith's Lake are closed, travelers are left without hotel accommodations along the entire route from Stillwater to Little Tupper, a journey of over fifty miles through a wilderness on which no house or camp remains to offer its hospitalities to the wearied or belated traveler. Furthermore the Supervisors of Herkimer County have recently passed a resolution ordering the abandonment and closing of the State roads known as the

Carthage Road, and the Old Military Road, leaving this entire territory without a public thoroughfare.

Carrying the boat around the rapids at Munsey's, it is launched again, and the long ride to Stillwater begins. From Munsey's it is only nine miles by the old Carthage Road; but by the river it is twenty-five miles. The river runs near the road all the way, but in such a succession of long loops and bends that the distance by boat is more than doubled. Still the river is preferable, and about as quick; for the road is so rough that the horses are obliged to walk the whole distance.

The Beaver River is not only crooked, but, at its upper end, is quite narrow, and warrants its old Indian name, which signifies that it may be spanned by a fallen tree and crossed thereon. Still it is navigable to some extent, and a little side-wheel steamboat of rude construction, named "Wild Jess," runs from Stillwater up to Munsey's.

The Beaver River, in its general direction, runs west, and empties into the Black River at a point about seven miles below Lowville. It is eighty miles long, its headwaters extending within one-third of a mile of Brandreth Lake. Five miles from Munsey's it is joined by the South Branch; and eight miles further on the outlet of the Red Horse Chain comes in from the north. This chain of lakes is situated in a primeval forest that has never been entered by the lumbermen. It contains a valuable growth of spruce, and is the best timbered of any locality in the Great Forest. Just before reaching Stillwater the river is joined by Twitchell Creek, an important tributary which comes from the south.

For several miles above Stillwater the banks of the river have been overflowed and the timber killed by the backwater from the State dam, which was built there in 1886, under sanction of an act passed in 1881, "to construct reservoirs for the purpose of restoring Black River to its natural (?) supply of water." The injury inflicted is widespread, and actions against the State for damages in large amounts are now pending before the Board of Claims. Nor can it be learned that this so-called reservoir has

ever been of any substantial benefit to the mills or water-power of the Black River.

At Stillwater—or Dunbar's, as it is often called—there is a hotel, and some cottages which belong to the same management, but which have recently been sold to a sportsman's club. There are no other buildings, and the clearing is surrounded by a dense forest. Below Stillwater the river is not navigable, even for skiffs, and so the long boat ride from the Lower Saranac ends here. The returning guide starts on his lonely journey up the Beaver River, while the traveler, seated on a buckboard, pushes on through the dark forest which still lies to the westward between him and the open fields of civilization.

Stillwater had its hermit hunter, also, one Jimmy O'Kane, an old trapper who came there in 1844, and lived a solitary life for many years, during which he was the only inhabitant within many miles. But one New Year's Day a great storm of snow and wind swept over the forest, and when it cleared away some passing hunters, seeing no smoke issuing from the chimney, entered his shanty and found him dead, "his body lying on a rude bed near the fireplace, his head and shoulders somewhat elevated, his cap drawn over his eyes, and his hands crossed upon his breast." A party of men waded through the deep snow from Watson, thirty miles away, to bury the dead hunter, and laid him in a grave near his cabin, marking the spot with a rude wooden monument at the head, and a boat paddle at the foot of his solitary grave.*

And such was life in Brown's Tract in 1857.

From Dunbar's (Stillwater) to Fenton's, it is ten miles. The route lies along the old State Road which once ran from Carthage, on the Black River, to Crown Point, on Lake Champlain, a distance of 133 miles. This road was built in 1840, and for ninety-five miles of its length it ran through a dense forest. Between Munsey's and Fenton's it is still in use, though well-nigh impassable for lack of proper care; but east of Munsey's

* For this kindly deed their names are worthy of remembrance. The men who thus buried him were Elder Elihu Robinson, ex Sheriff Peter Kirley, Joseph Garmon, William Glenn, E. Harvey, Thomas Kirby, F. Robinson, and Aretas Wetmore.— *From Northern New York*; by Nathaniel Bartlett Sylvester.

the bridges are gone, and the road has been abandoned between there and Long Lake. Between Dunbar's and Fenton's it is in such wretched condition that horses can not go faster than a walk. It is a mere string of rocks and mud holes. This seems inexcusable; for the town of Wilmurt is the largest town in the State, and at the same time has the least number of miles to keep in order.

The road leads all the way through a magnificent forest, in which active lumbering operations are carried on. There is considerable hemlock here, and as the bark is worth two dollars per cord on the tree—or five dollars at the tanneries—the hemlock is being cut as well as the other soft woods.

Fenton's, or "Number Four," is within four miles of the open country, and marks the last stage of this long forest journey which spans the wilderness from east to west. The Beaver Lake, which receives and discharges the waters of the Beaver River, is near here, a small body of water about one and one-quarter miles long, with an elevation of 1,435 feet above the sea. In speaking of it, Sylvester says:

"There is not a lake in the whole wilderness more beautiful than Beaver Lake, as seen from Fenton's, near by, in the soft light of a sultry August day. Surrounded by its deeply indented, thickly-wooded shore, it there appears like a pool of liquid amber, sleeping in an emerald basin. It is a sweet picture of repose, typifying that sense of perfect rest which steals over us nowhere else but in the deep stillness of the woods and fields, far away from the ceaseless din of crowded cities."

The post-office of this place is called Number Four, a peculiar name, which excites considerable curiosity as to its derivation. Fenton's Hotel, in which the post-office is located, is situated in Township 4, Brown's Tract; and for many years the hunters and lumbermen had no other way of designating this and adjoining localities except by the numerals which the surveyors had appended to the various townships. Hence the postal address of Number Four. The name has the merit of originality, and is an improvement on the 'villes, 'burgs, 'tons, and other suffixes which are so prominent in the National Postal List.

From Number Four the exit leads to Lowville, eighteen miles distant, a station on the Rome, Watertown and Ogdensburg Railroad. The ride to Lowville is a pleasant one, the first four miles being through the woods, from which one emerges on the brow of a hill overlooking the valley of the Black River. The view from here is a rare and magnificent one, extending many miles, and including the distant spires of several towns and villages.

The distance traveled from Lower Saranac Lake to Number Four is 115 miles and requires five days. The journey is best divided as follows:

	Miles
(1) Lower Saranac to Stony Creek Pond	15
(2) Stony Creek Pond to head of Tupper Lake.....	33
(3) Head of Tupper Lake to Smith's Lake.....	23
(4) Smith's Lake to Stillwater	34
(5) Stillwater to Number Four (wagon).....	10
Total	115

The second day's journey, it will be remembered, may be shortened twelve miles by taking the Sweeney Carry instead of the Indian Carry as above.

THE MOUNTAIN REGION.

But it is not necessary to confine one's self to a guide's boat in order to enjoy Adirondack scenery; in fact, there is much of it that can not be seen from the waterways. The mountain region can be reached only by stage roads, supplemented by pedestrian trips. These roads are kept in good condition for travel; the stages are large, clean and comfortable; and the mountain views along the route are grand — all combining to make this part of the Adirondacks a most delightful one for those who are fond of coaching, driving, or an old-fashioned ride on top of a six-horse "Concord."

The tour of the mountains will thus form a third journey, one entirely distinct from the two previously described, and which may be called the

ELIZABETHTOWN, KEENE VALLEY, AND WILMINGTON ROUTE.

Leaving Albany, and traveling by way of Saratoga, Lake George, and Lake Champlain, the village of Westport is reached, a pleasant summer resort on the west shore of Champlain, from whence one can look across the blue waters of the lake to the distant mountains of Vermont and New Hampshire. It is one of the gateways to the Adirondacks, and is especially convenient for those visiting Keene Valley and the mountains of the Marcy Range. At the steamboat landing, or railroad station, passengers will find well-equipped six-horse coaches which run to Elizabethtown, eight miles distant, at which place they connect with stages for Keene Valley. The road leads westward through a country which is partly wooded, by occasional farms, and along a valley which offers some beautiful mountain views, the symmetrical peak of Raven Mountain, a few miles beyond Westport, being particularly conspicuous.

Elizabethtown is a picturesque village, beautifully situated in the valley of the Boquet River,* and is a great favorite with the many people who make their summer residence there. Tourists bound for Keene Valley or the mountains will find it a very desirable place to break the journey and remain over night. From here to Keene Valley it is thirteen miles. Five miles west of the village, to the north of the road, stands Mount Hurricane, a giant outpost of the Adirondack Titans, its lofty peak attaining an elevation of nearly 4,000 feet. In crossing the ridge, beyond which lies the valley of the Ausable, the road runs through Hurricane Notch, and then descending the farther side, emerges from the woods, affording a view of the Keene Valley in all its enchanting beauty. The shining river, the green

* Named by William Gilliland, a colonial landowner, on account of the flowers upon its banks. Some assert it derives its name from Colonel Boquet, who encamped upon its borders, but it bore the name before his appearance.—*Alfred B. Street.*

meadows, the peaceful hamlet and Alpine slopes beyond, combine to make one of the fairest scenes that ever greet the eye.

In arranging for a tour of the mountains it is advisable to establish temporary headquarters in the Keene Valley, as it is the best point from which the various trips can be made; or, what is better, if one can afford it, push on three miles farther to St. Hubert's Inn, better known as Beede's.

Keene is without the lines of the Adirondack Park, the boundary of that proposed domain lying along the forest-covered ridges to the west of the valley. This vale includes several farms, two villages, and throughout its length is interspersed with the handsome cottages of summer residents. There is little or no forest between it and Lake Champlain; and so the line of the park was drawn to the west of the valley. Still the wooded slopes of the Great Forest skirts its fields, and the paths to the mountain passes start from its very doors.

Beyond Keene Valley the line of the forest bends backward to the east, inclosing the dense wilderness which lies south of Beede's, and through which the road passes to Euba Mills and Lake Champlain. Along this road, one mile from Beede's lies Chapel Pond, a mountain lake surrounded by high precipitous walls of rock, the road past the lake running through Chapel Pond Gorge, a romantic defile which lies between two mountains known as Noon Mark and the Giant. The land surrounding this locality is owned by the State. Close by are the Roaring Brook Falls, a succession of beautiful cascades falling from a height of 300 feet. In fact, there are several of these mountain waterfalls near Keene Valley, which are easily visited and which form the objective point of many a delightful excursion.

But the most beautiful scenery in all this locality is found at the Ausable Lakes. This charming spot must not be confounded with the Ausable Chasm, which is over fifty miles distant on the borders of Lake Champlain. These lakes, the Lower and Upper Ausable, are situated within the territory owned by the Adirondack Mountain Reserve Association, the entrance to whose grounds is near St. Hubert's Inn, from whence a road, three and





MT. NOON MARK.
Keene Valley.

S. B. Stoddard, Photo.

one-half miles long, leads to the lower lake. At this entrance there is a rustic gateway and toll-house, on which the following notices are posted:

NOTICE.

ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN-RESERVE.

"This company desires to preserve the Ausable lakes, rivers, and adjacent forests in their natural beauty, and to prevent them from being injured—to restock the waters with fish and to protect the game. Places of interest are to be rendered more accessible by roads and trails.

The property of this company is private property, but it is open to visitors willing to observe the following regulations:

TIMBER.

Cutting green timber, peeling bark, or defacing in any way the property of the company, is absolutely forbidden.

FIRES.

No one except the authorized guides will be allowed to make fires. Smokers are particularly requested to be careful in the use of matches.

CAMPS AND CAMPING.

No person is allowed to camp upon the property of the company, unless accompanied by an authorized guide. These guides have the use of specified camps. Parties going into camp for the night are required to enter their names in the camp register at the boat-house cottage on the lower lake. A small charge will be made each person for every night spent in camp. No charge for camp use will be made to parties not remaining over night, but the use of camps can be secured only by parties accompanied by authorized guides.

BOATS AND BOAT-HOUSE COTTAGES.

A number of new boats of approved model for safety have been placed upon the lower lake. These may be rented by the hour or day.

The boat-house cottage has been provided for the rest and refreshment of visitors to the lakes. Some necessary supplies for campers can be obtained there. On Sundays nothing will be sold, and boats will not be rented.

ROAD.

A wagon road has been constructed to the lower lake at a large outlay. The cost of maintenance will be heavy, and a toll will be charged to persons passing over the road. The receipts from tolls will be used to maintain and improve the road.

HUNTING AND FISHING.

Hunting and fishing will be allowed by special permit only.

Any person violating these regulations, or acting in a disorderly manner, or guilty of practices tending to interfere with the pleasure and comfort of persons using the property, will be considered as a trespasser and treated as such.

CHARGE FOR USE OF CAMPS.

Parties accompanied by authorized guides, and remaining in camp over night, are required to enter their names on the camp register at the house cottage, and pay twenty-five cents for each person for each night in camp. For over two weeks, at rate of one dollar and twenty-five cents per week.

CHARGE FOR BOATS.

The authorized guides have their own boats on both lakes.

Persons desiring to hire company boats on the lower lake will be charged for them :

For one-half hour or less.....	\$0 25
First hour or fraction of an hour.....	35
Second and subsequent hours or fraction.....	20
For the day	<u>1 00</u>

Boats must be returned by 6.30 p. m., except under special agreement.

Company boats on the upper lake hired only with special permit and key at one dollar for any part of a day.

ROAD TOLLS — SEASON OF 1891.

Saddle horse	\$0 30
One horse and wagon	50
Two horses and wagon	1 00
Four horses and wagon	1 75
Six horses and wagon	2 25

Package tickets, twelve for price of ten singles.

Season tickets not transferable."

In place of the old, nearly impassable road a new one has been constructed by the company at a great expense. It is a most delightful drive, winding through the cool shadows of the forest, along a mountain stream abounding in beautiful cascades and charming woodland views.

Part of the forest along this road was cut clean about twenty-five years ago by charcoal burners. Persons interested in forestry matters will note with pleasure as they ride by, that the land has completely reforested itself, there being little in the present growth which would indicate to a casual observer that it differed from the original forest on the surrounding lands. There are large areas in this county which have been cleared by charcoal burners, but which are rapidly recovering their growth, their present condition affording an encouraging outlook for the future welfare of these forests.

The road ends at the Lower Ausable Lake, and as it leaves the woods turns sharply in its descent to the water, affording a sudden view of what more closely resembles Swiss scenery than anything else in the Adirondacks. The lake is a mile and a half long, but a bend in its direction prevents a view of its entire length. The mountains rise on either side, in nearly perpendicular walls, directly from the water's edge. On the left, or east side, are the palisades on whose overhanging cliffs is the remarkable profile known as Indian Head. The mountain scenery of America includes several curiosities of this kind, but none of them resembles the outlines of the human face more than the great stone Sphinx which for centuries has grimly watched the defiles of the Lower Ausable.

There are no hotels or houses at the Ausable Lakes. There is a boat-house at the Lower Lake where boats may be hired by persons wishing to take a ride; but this privilege does not include the upper lake. Meals can be obtained here, also, if necessary. From the boat-house a short walk leads to Rainbow Falls, a cascade with a sheer descent of 130 feet. On the west side of the lake are the steep slopes of Mount Resagonia, or Saw Teeth as it is sometimes called on account of the three peaks which form its serrated ridge.

The Upper Ausable Lake can be visited only by employing one of the licensed guides of the Association, each of whom has a permanent rustic camp established there in which parties can be comfortably and pleasantly entertained over night, or for as many days as they may wish to stay. Having hired one of the local guides, the tourist leaves the stage and takes a boat at the lower lake. Arriving at its upper end, a carry of nearly one mile along a pleasant path leads to the upper lake. This lake is two miles in length, about half a mile wide, and is nearly 2,000 (1,993) feet above the sea. The views of the mountains from here are grand, particularly of Haystack, Basin and Gothic. Mount Haystack is the most prominent, its symmetrical outlines indicating clearly the derivation of its name.

The inlet of the lake, also known as part of the Ausable River, is easily ascended by boat, although quite narrow. A boat can be pulled up its stream to the low divide, beyond which, at a short distance, lies the source of the Boreas River, one of the streams on the Hudson watershed.

The pretty rustic camps which the guides have erected on this lake are a very attractive feature, and visitors to Keene Valley should avail themselves of the advantages which they offer for a night or two in this the wildest of Nature's haunts. Guides will accompany parties from Keene Valley, or meet them at the lower lake.

The guide will furnish boats on each lake, and, on arriving at his camp, it will be found well stocked with food, dishes, beds, and all necessary conveniences. These camps are located on projecting points along the shore of the Upper Ausable, or on



S. R. Stoddard, Photo.

**AUSABLE RIVER,
Keene Valley.**

desirable knolls. The site selected in each case has some grand mountain scenery spread out before it in the immediate foreground, some lofty peaks whose gilded summits announce the morning, or glow with sunset hues long after the evening shadows have settled down upon the dark and quiet lake.

Ladies and children can sojourn in these camps without undergoing any fatigue, privation or exposure of health. The cooking of the guides is all that one could ask for, and the bed of balsam boughs affords delicious sleep.

But the criticism is often made that this territory is owned and rigidly controlled by a private club; and, what is more, that these clubs are increasing in number. Very true, and, in reply, we would say that the sooner the State itself acquires the remaining land, the better; that the extension of these private reserves will continue until your honorable body grants the appropriations necessary to secure the remainder of the Great Forest for the unrestricted use of the public.

The highest peaks of the Adirondacks, with one exception, are situated in this immediate vicinity.* Mount Marcy overtops them all with an elevation of 5,344 feet, it being the highest mountain in the State. It is also known as Mount Tahawus, an Indian name, which means "piercing the clouds." The ascent of this peak is best made from Keene Valley, and from the Ausable lakes. From the village in Keene Valley, the distance to the summit is nine miles, the trail following the course of John's Brook and Panther Gorge, passing on the way the cascades of Big Falls and Bushnell's Falls. From the Upper Ausable Lake the distance is five miles.

* The principal mountains in the order of their height, as determined by the State Survey, are as follows:

Name.	Height.	Name.	Height.
Marcy	5,344	Gothic	4,744
McIntyre	5,201	Redfield	4,688
Haystack	4,918	Nipple Top	4,684
Dix	4,916	Santanoni	4,644
Basin	4,905	Saddle	4,536
Gray Peak	4,902	Giant	4,530
Skylight	4,889	Seward	4,384
Whiteface	4,871	Maccomb	4,371
Golden	4,753		

They are all in Essex County except Mt. Seward.

In taking the latter route, it is well to first go into camp at the upper lake in one of the comfortable spots belonging to the guide. Then, starting fresh in the morning, make the ascent, and return at night to the camp, the trip being made thus without fatigue, and over a trail which will admit of ladies joining the party. The first part of the journey may be made by boat, rowing up the inlet of the Upper Ausable to the junction of Marcy Brook, and thence up the latter stream to the trail which leads along the west side of Mount Bartlett. The path then joins the John's Brook trail from Keene Valley, in Panther Gorge, a deep, gloomy ravine lying between Marcy and Haystack.

From here the ascent is quite steep and the vegetation shows signs of the increasing altitude, the dwarfed evergreens diminishing in height until the rocky slopes rise bare and gray to the summit. The beautiful Alpine mosses, which lower down covered the rocks with their green cushions, also disappear, leaving only stunted balsams no higher than one's head. And yet some of these Alpine dwarfs have withstood the howling gales of this mountain height for over a century, their slender trunks, when cut across, showing under a microscope over 100 concentric rings of growth. On the southern slope of the mountain the balsams reach nearly to the summit. At the top of the mountain there is a plateau of bare, uneven rock, about 300 feet long by 100 wide, across which the wind continually sweeps with chilling effect.

In describing a trip to the top of Mount Marcy one of our famous writers* says:

"Surmounting a steep acclivity, then turning into a sort of winding gallery, and passing a large mass of rock, I placed myself at their side, and lo, the summit! Famished with thirst, I looked around, and basins of water, hollowed in the stern granite, met my gaze—real jewels of the skies—rain water; and truly delicious was it. Next, my eye was startled by one of the most delicate little fairy flowers (a harebell) that ever grew—sweet as Titania, blue as Heaven, and fragile as hope—

* Alfred B. Street.

here, on the very bald tip-top of old Tahawus. I looked around for humming birds and butterflies! It was a beautiful sight, that little blossom trembling at the very breath, and yet flourishing here. Here, where the tawny grass sings sharp and keen in the wrathful hurricane that the eagle scarce dares to stem; where even the pine shrub can not live, and the wiry juniper shows not even its iron wreath! Here, where the bitter cold lingers nearly all the year, and the snow-flake dazzles the June sun with its frozen glitter! Here, on the summit of a peak to which the lightning lowers its torch, and at whose base the storm cloud crouches.

"A variety of grasses, a species of dwarf-creeping willow, and harebells, with other flowers of white and gold, spangle the mosses and seam the clefts of the summit.

"Clear and bright shines the prospect below, and herein we are lucky. Old Tahawus oft-times sets sulky. He will not allow his vassal landscape to show itself, but shrouds it in a wet, clinging mist. To-day, however, he permits it to appear in his presence, and lo, the magic! A sea of mountain tops! A sea frozen at its wildest tumult. And what a multitude of peaks! The whole horizon is full to repletion. As a guide said, 'where there wasn't a big peak, a little one was stuck up.' Really true, and how savage! How wild! Close on my right rises Haystack, a truncated cone, the top shaved apparently to a level. To the west soars the sublime slope of Mount Colden, with McIntyre looking over his shoulder; a little above, point the purple peaks of Mount Seward—a grand mountain cathedral with the tops of Mount Henderson and Santanoni in misty sapphire. At the southwest shimmers a dreamy summit—Blue Mountain; while to the south stands the near and lesser top of Skylight. Beyond, at the southeast, wave the sterner crests of Boreas Mountain. Thence ascends the Dial, with its leaning cone, like the Tower of Pisa; and close to it swells the majesty of Dix's Peak, shaped like a slumbering lion. Thence stagger the wild, savage, splintered tops of the Gothic Mountains at the Lower Ausable Pond—a ragged thunder-cloud—linking themselves, on the east, with the Noonmark and Rogers Moun-

tain, that watch over the Valley of Keene. To the northeast rise the Edmund's Pond summits—the mountain picture closed by the sharp crest of old Whiteface on the north—stately outposts of the Adirondacks. Scattered through this picture are manifold expanses of water—those almost indispensable eyes of a landscape. That glitter at the north by old Whiteface is Lake Placid; and the spangle, Bennett's Pond.* Yon streak running south from Mount Seward, as if a silver vein had been opened in the stern mountains, is Long Lake; and between it and our vision shine Lakes Henderson and Sanford, with the sparkles of Lake Harkness, and the twin lakes Jamie and Sallie. At the southwest glances beautiful Blue Mountain Lake—name most suggestive and poetic. South, lies Boreas Pond, with its green beaver meadow and a mass of rock at the edge. To the southeast glisten the Upper and Lower Ausable Ponds; and farther off, in the same direction, Mud and Clear Ponds, by the Dial and Dix's Peak. But what is that long gleam at the east? Lake Champlain! and that glittering line north? The St. Lawrence, above the dark sea of the Canadian woods."

But despite this glowing description the view is inferior to that from Whiteface; for the surrounding country is so filled with upheaved ranges clothed with dark forests, that the picture resembles some huge topographical model instead of the panoramic landscape usually seen from a mountain summit.

There seems to be a strong inclination on the part of the people to adhere to the old Indian name of this mountain. In a magazine article furnished Outing, Wallace Bruce makes a strong plea for the old name, and says: "There is no justice in robbing the Indian of his keen poetic appreciation, by changing a name, which has itself a definite meaning, for one that means nothing in its association with this mountain. We have stolen enough from this unfortunate race, to leave, at least, those names in our woodland vocabulary that chance to have a musical sound to our imported Saxon ears. The name Tahawus is not only beautiful in itself, but also poetic in its interpretation—

* Now called Mirror Lake.

signifying 'I cleave the clouds.' Coleridge in his glorious hymn, 'Before Sunrise in the Vale of Chamouni,' addresses Mount Blanc:

Around, thee and above
Deep in the air and dark, substantial black—
An ebon mass; Methinks thou piercest it,
As with a wedge.'

"The name or meaning of Tahawus was never known to the great English poet, who died fifty years ago. Is it not remarkable that the untutored Indian and the keenest poetic mind which England has produced for a century should have the same idea in the uplifted mountain?

"There is also another reason why we, as a State, should cherish the name Tahawus. While the Sierra Nevadas and the Alps slumbered beneath the waves of the ocean, before the Himalayas or the Andes had asserted their supremacy, scientists say that the high peaks of the Adirondack Mountains stood alone above the waves, 'the cradle of the world's life;' and, as the clouds then encircled the vast waste of water, Tahawus then rose, 'Cleaver' alike of the waters and the clouds."

There are several other mountains close by, that are nearly equal in height to Mount Marcy, and fully equal in beauty and points of interest, any of which may be ascended from Keene Valley. The Indian Pass and Avalanche Lake can also be reached from the Ausable Lakes, or from Keene. But there is a better starting point from which to visit these latter places, mention of which will be made farther on.

Having tarried in the Keene Valley long enough to make excursions to the various points of interest, seats are resumed in the coach or carriage, and the road northward is retraveled as far as the junction with the Elizabethtown road, beyond which point it leads to the Cascade Lakes. They are fourteen miles from the village of Keene Valley Post-office. Five miles from the latter place the road passes through a little village at the north end of the valley by the name of Keene Post-office, or Keene "Centre." The entire drive through the valley is a

lovely one, over a smooth, level road, by pleasant farms and summer cottages, and along the beautiful, winding stream of the Ausable River. The lover of trees will be particularly interested in the giant elm opposite the hotel at Keene Centre, and the still larger and handsomer one which stands by a pretty cottage on the west side of the road, about two miles before reaching the "Centre." The former has a spread of ninety-one feet, with a trunk twenty-one and one-half feet in circumference. It is related of this tree that the person who planted it is still living, so rapid was its growth; that a lady who is now residing in Keene was once taking a journey on horseback, when she was a young girl, and needing a whip she pulled up a slender bush by the roots which, having arrived at her journey's end, she planted there, and hence the big elm at Keene Centre.

From the latter place the road ascends a steep hill, from whose summit a parting look at this lovely Swiss valley may be taken, and then turning to the left runs due west through a notch in the mountains to the east end of the lower lake. The lake is narrow, the mountains rising abruptly on either side, crowding the roadway to the water's edge for nearly a mile, beyond which lies the upper and smaller lake, separated by only a narrow strip of land. These lakes are 2,038 feet above the sea, and originally were one body of water, called Long Pond; but it was divided by a mass of earth and rock from a landslide which occurred over thirty years ago. Long Pond Mountain forms the south wall of the pass, and Pitchoff the north. On the south side near the narrow strip dividing the lakes, is the cascade from which they are named, a series of waterfalls whose foaming stream is over 1,000 feet in height.

Beyond and west of this place are some abandoned charcoal kilns, which are responsible for the peculiar condition of the tree-growth on either side for quite a distance. The forest was cut here by the charcoal burners, and every tree, large and small, was removed; but the land is now covered with a promising second growth.

Throughout the entire region the lands which were cleared for charcoal, reforest themselves quicker, and with a much more

valuable growth, than those which have been denuded by fire. Fortunately, the cutting for charcoal resembles somewhat the coppice system, which is one of the recognized methods of forest management; and, so, most of the stumps left by the charcoal axemen have sprouted persistently, and yielded a second growth exhibiting most of its original varieties, so far as the deciduous trees are concerned. But where the forest has been destroyed by successive burnings, the soil and seeds are too badly scorched to reproduce the former trees, and so the land reforests itself with an inferior crop of small poplars and bird cherries. In driving through Essex County a good opportunity is offered for studying some of these phases of natural reforestation.

Four miles west of the Cascade Lakes the road passes Ames's place, from which, looking southward, there is a view of the grand array of mountain forms which, commencing with Wallace on the western end, includes in their order, McIntyre, Colden, Marcy, Haystack, Basin, Gothic, Giant and their lesser attendants.

But the grandest scenery in this range is yet to be witnessed; and, so, leaving the main road at a point just beyond Ames's, the drive leads southward five miles to the Adirondack Lodge, the point of entry to the Indian Pass, and, also, to the pass at Avalanche Lake. The Adirondack Lodge is on the north side of the mountains, and is a different place from Adirondack, the site of the abandoned iron works, which is on the south side of the range and one of the starting points, also, in visiting the Indian Pass.

The Adirondack Lodge is a public house which has the distinction of being the largest and handsomest piece of rustic architecture extant, it being built of logs, three stories high, and with a proportionate length of frontage and piazzas. It stands on the bank of Clear Lake, a small body of water resting in a hollow on the northern slope of McIntyre. This mountain tarn, surrounded by towering slopes, clothed in the dark robes of the primeval forest, has been fitly termed the "Gem of the Adirondacks."

Lake Colden and Avalanche Lake are situated near each other in the pass which lies between Mounts Colden and McIntyre, and, aside from some small mountain ponds, are the highest lakes in the wilderness. Avalanche Lake is 2,856 feet above tide. No fish are found in the ice-cold depths of its glittering waters, and no mountain game is seen upon the rocky walls which overhang its weird and lonely shores. The bald eagle may be noticed at times circling above its crags, but the voice of the loon is never heard on its silent waters.

Avalanche Lake is less than a mile long, and is but a few rods wide. Between it and Lake Colden, which is somewhat larger, are huge piles of rock, which long ago were thrown there by landslides. It is half filled in places by masses of earth and rock, which, at different times, have rushed down the sides of Mount Colden, one of these avalanches occurring as late as 1869. At this place is the Great Trap Dike of Mount Colden, so famous among geologists, which shows a section of the mountain split downward for a thousand feet or more, the mass of fallen rock nearly bridging the lake. The ragged fracture of this trap dike is cut 100 feet into the gray, flinty hypersthene of the mountain side. In writing of Avalanche Lake, Alfred B. Street says:

"The deep waters, like ebony, with a glitter upon their black glass, lay below, and I thought how seldom they had been disturbed by human presence. Here, alone in the forest, quite removed from even extraordinary travel, lies the sable gem, with none to see its wondrous beauty. How patiently, from hour to hour, does it mirror the sky-tints and the wood-colors! How it has smiled to the sun, dimpled to the breeze, blackened to the storm since it heard the primeval anthem."

"That the two lakes in the old time were one, can not be denied. The ridge separating them was unquestionably formed by an enormous avalanche from the steep cliffs of Mount Colden. In fact, avalanches are, even now, so common that the lake has thus received its picturesque name. And what a slide to have smitten the one lake into two! What thunders, as the mighty trees leaned and tottered, and the rocks were hurled as from a catapult, and the woods were rolled up, a mighty billow,



TRAP DIKE.
Avalanche Lake.

S. R. Stoddard, Photo.

and the whole, a terrific cataract of mingled trunks and crags, dashed into the lake, soaring into two mighty walls crowned with foam, and subsiding at last into the present basins. It were worth a life-time, almost, to have witnessed a sight so majestic."

From Avalanche Lake it is only five miles back to the starting point of the trip at the Adirondack Lodge, whose comforts and accommodations are best appreciated after the tiresome trip.

It will be remembered that in going from the Iron Works to Lake Colden, the trail separates at the latter point, the diverging path continuing eastward and up the southwestern slope of Mount Marcy. If the time can be spared, and the necessary arrangements for camping have been made, a side trip should be taken here. This trail leads up and along the Opalescent River, and thence to the mountain pool which, resting on the southern slope of Marcy, is claimed to be the true source of the Hudson River. This lakelet is 4,326 feet above the sea. It was always known to the guides as Summit Lake, or Summit Water; but Mr. Colvin, while in charge of the State survey, renamed it "Tear of the Clouds." It is but a little pond, shallow and marshy, and hardly warrants the esthetic name bestowed upon it. Although not more remote than some of the other sources of the Hudson, it has a greater elevation, and may be fairly called the fountain head of that noblest of rivers. A mile or so to the south is another pond named Moss Lake, with an elevation of 4,312 feet, whose waters also flow to the Hudson, the lake deriving its name from the thick, luxuriant mosses growing upon its banks.

The outlet of Lake Colden flows into the Opalescent River at a point not far from the foot of the lake, from whence the Opalescent bends sharply to the right and east, the ascent of this branch leading to the lakes just mentioned. This river runs through a wild and picturesque region, flowing in one place through a gorge of over a mile in length. This gorge is the famous "Flume of the Opalescent," between whose high, densely wooded banks the river dashes down its rocky course, the gleam of its white foam contrasting beautifully with the dark, green

foliage along its edges. In places, the channel is filled with great blocks of gneiss, while the entire bed of the stream, which is formed of the hypersthene rock of this region, is full of crystals of opalescent feldspar. "This is the exquisitely beautiful mineral Labradorite, which was first discovered by the Moravian Missionaries in the Laurentian rock of Labrador, and which when first taken by them to England brought such fabulous prices. In this wild mountain stream this brilliant gem is found in great profusion, showing through its clear waters with a marvelous play of color.

"But this is not the only gem that flashes in the dark rocks of this region. Garnets, carnelians, sapphires, agates, amethysts, jasper, chalcedony, celestine, and calcite light up the old rocks with their brilliant iridescence."*

Leaving the Adirondack Lodge the road runs to Lake Placid, which is about eleven miles distant. Seven miles from the Lodge is the little village of North Elba, the road thither running in sight of the grave of old John Brown, the leader of the Harper's Ferry insurrection. After his execution, Brown's body was brought to North Elba and buried on his farm. Close by his grave is a huge boulder on whose gray, time-worn face has been chiseled in large letters, the legend, "John Brown, 1859." By the old man's side are the remains of his sons—Oliver, Watson, and Frederick. The two first were killed in the fight at Harper's Ferry; the latter was killed in Kansas, in 1856, during the border troubles of the time. The farm, which is surrounded by forests, has been purchased by a company who keep it open to the public, a large number of persons visiting the spot each season. But this locality is not the John Brown's Tract, so often mentioned in connection with the wilderness. That tract, which embraced a large territory, is situated on the west side of the Great Forest, and derives its name from Colonel John Brown of Rhode Island, who purchased it in 1798. The history of this famous purchase and the enterprise connected with it will be found in the preceding pages of this report.

*Sylvester.

Lake Placid and Mirror Lake are very near each other, being separated in one place by only a low, narrow strip of land. Their beautiful location and charming surroundings attract more visitors than any other place in the Great Forest. Mirror Lake, which is at the south end of Placid, is much the smaller of the two, being less than one mile in length, and about one-third of a mile wide. Lake Placid is nearly five miles long by two wide, and contains three beautiful islands, two of which, Moose Island and Buck Island, are quite large, dividing it longitudinally into two bodies of water, known as the East and West Lake. The State owns some land on its shores, together with large areas of forest in its immediate vicinity. Though situated so near each other, Lake Placid and Mirror Lake have separate outlets, both of which flow into the west branch of the Ausable River. Lake Placid has an elevation of 1,863 feet. It is 324 feet higher than the Lower Saranac Lake, which is nine miles distant, a railroad connecting the two places.

Joined to Lake Placid, at its southern end, lies Paradox Pond, the phenomenal flow of whose waters, backward and forward through its outlet at short intervals, suggested its name. The current from the pond into the lake flows rapidly for a few minutes, and then after a short time reverses and rushes back into the pond, the curious ebb and flow never having been explained. There is another Paradox Lake in Essex County, in the town of Schroon, a much larger body of water, which derives its name from a similar phenomenon; but the paradoxical movement of the current in the latter case is easily understood, it being due to the unequal height of Schroon Lake in time of freshets.

The shores of Lake Placid are well wooded, and unsurpassed in beautiful scenery. In places there are rocky cliffs that skirt the water's edge, one of which, known as the Devil's Pulpit, forms an attractive feature of the eastern shore. Undercliff, near the head of the lake, includes a collection of cottages pleasantly situated on a forest-covered knoll that commands a charming view. This place, which is under the control of Dr. Charles D. Alton, of Hartford, Conn.,

is the private camp of a physician enlarged by additional cottages for families, with a larger one for single parties, a general assembly-room, and a central dining-hall, for those seeking the benefits of mountain air. It is in no sense a sanitarium, and not only is every appearance of invalidism carefully avoided, but every effort is made to preserve the social harmonies of the camp.

The mountain view from the high knoll which in one place rises between Lake Placid and Mirror Lake is without its equal in the entire Adirondack region. Looking southward, the lofty peaks of the Marcy Range are in full view, the distance being no more than what is necessary to rightly appreciate their massive outlines. Turning to the north the eye rests on Whiteface, the grandest mountain in the State, its isolated form, clothed in virgin forests, rising directly from the shores of Placid. Near its summit is a broad expanse of bare, gray rock that marks the path of an avalanche that swept down its western face some seventy years ago, and from which it derives its name.

The ascent of Mount Whiteface is not difficult. One trail starts from the north end of Lake Placid, the slope of the mountain reaching here to the water's edge. Another, and an easier one, leading up to the opposite side, starts from the village of Wilmington, from which the summit is six miles distant. A wagon is used for the first two miles, after which a bridle path leads nearly to the peak. Part of the ascent can be made on horseback, although walking is preferable, the trail being incumbered in several places by fallen trees and burned timber. Once at the top, the view is far superior to that from any other elevation in the State. There are no adjoining mountains, and so the unbroken outlook is limited only by the power of vision. Standing on its silent summit amid the impressive stillness of the upper air the scene is one which can never be forgotten. Away to the south is the billowy expanse of blue peaks stretching from Seward to Hurricane, above which Tahawus and the Dial lift their heads conspicuously. On the east, Lake Champlain is in full sight, with the Sierras of the New England Mountains rising grandly in the background. Northward, beyond the

borders of the Great Forest, is seen the broad mirror of Ontario, and the glittering line of the St. Lawrence. On the west lies the grand panorama of the Adirondack Lakes, the most fascinating sight of all. Directly at the mountain's foot are the blue waters of Placid and Mirror Lake. Beyond the dark belt of the State forests are the Saranacs, while farther on the broad shining surfaces of the Tupper are plainly to be seen.

It is claimed that on a clear day sixty-five lakes, visible to the naked eye, may be counted from this summit; and that the spires and roofs of Montreal are, also, in plain view.

In going from Lake Placid to the famous Wilmington Notch, it is necessary to return as far as North Elba, where the road branches off from the main highway which leads to Keene Valley, Elizabethtown and Westport. The road to the notch follows the west branch of the Ausable River through pleasant bits of woodland and river scenery, above which in the distance rise the giant portals of this famous pass.

The notch is a chasm, nearly two miles long, formed by a rent in the side of Whiteface. The high, forest-covered palisades close in darkly on either side, leaving barely room for the narrow roadway and the river. The Ausable is here compressed within a channel which can scarce contain the dark, angry torrent that dashes swiftly through its rocky flume. The towering slopes that rise steeply on either side shut out the light, making the defile all the more solemn and impressive in its shadowy gloom. On the south side a wall of rock rises perpendicularly from the roadway, and in some places overhangs the traveler's head. On the opposite side the grand terraces of the mountain—gray and bare on their sides, but green with foliage on their tops—rise one above the other until they are lost in the mists that cling around its summit.

Near the notch is Copperas Pond, a small body of water on the south side of the road, but high upon the side of a mountain, which derives its name from the mineral that is found in profusion in its vicinity. Its waters are strongly impregnated with sulphate of iron.

Just beyond the notch the Ausable plunges over some rocky ledges, forming a cataract known as the Big Falls, the water falling at one place in an unbroken descent of over 100 feet into a dark, rocky pool below. A little farther on, the river rushes through a narrow gorge called the "Flume," claimed by many to be fully equal in beauty to the flume in the White Mountains; while in depth of cañon and volume of water it certainly surpasses its famous rival.

On the north or river side of the road, not far from a path leading to the river, is a large specimen of the Mountain Maple—*Acer spicatum*—probably the largest tree of its kind in the State; for this species seldom grows to be anything more than a large shrub or clump of tall bushes. This remarkable specimen, belonging as it does to one of our most beautiful mountain shrubs, is well worth a visit from any one interested in botany. A contributor to *Garden and Forest*—M. G. V. R.—writing from Lake Placid, says of this interesting species:

"I was glad to see, in a recent number of your journal, a plea for the more general cultivation of our beautiful small native maple, *Acer spicatum*. I had just been forcibly struck with its attractiveness, as it grows wild along the edges of the woodland roads in this region. Even here it often assumes an admirable, compact and symmetrical shape. Toward the end of June, when its many racemes of delicate pinkish brown flowers rise above its drooping leaves, it is decidedly the most ornamental object one meets with, and now that the flowers have been replaced by clusters of brighter-colored fruit, it is equally charming. Even amid the most gorgeous flowering shrubs of the garden it would hold its own in beauty, while its individuality might be even more apparent than in the forest. The very fact that its profusely produced flowers are not brightly colored would assist its usefulness to the gardener, who often wants, or should want, some delicate, rather dullish notes to mingle with the greens and the brighter floral notes of his shrubberies; or wants a flowering plant of distinct, yet somewhat modest aspect for some situation where a gayer one would be inharmonious. Truly, in habit, in foliage and in general color-effect, few shrubs



AUSABLE CHASM.

G. B. Stoddard, Photo.

are more attractive than *Acer spicatum*, and none with which we are more familiar in cultivation can quite fill its place."

From Wilmington, the exit is made by Port Kent, a railway and steamboat station on Lake Champlain, which is reached by a stage-ride of twenty-six miles. Just before arriving at Port Kent, the entrance to the Ausable Chasm is passed and the opportunity of visiting this great natural wonder should not be lost. The river flows here through a deep, narrow and winding chasm for about two miles, the gorge, in its general appearance, closely resembling Watkins Glen. Good, dry walks, with convenient stairs and bridges, lead half-way through it, after which boats are taken, the boat-ride including an exciting trip down the rapids near the lower end of the chasm. The entrance is at the upper end, where a toll-house has been erected and an admission fee collected.

It will be noticed that the three great routes just described, each of them over 100 miles long, are entirely distinct throughout their entire length, no place being visited twice. In order to see all the localities described, the three entire journeys must be made, a fact which may give some idea of the vast extent and numerous attractions of the Great Forest.

But other places of interest still remain to be visited, favorite spots with sportsmen and tourists, which are not situated on either of these three main routes. These remaining places are best reached by special trips, or by detours from the main route. Prominent among these localities are the beautiful lakes known as

THE FULTON CHAIN.

These lakes, eight in number, are situated in Herkimer and Hamilton Counties, and, for the most part, in Brown's Tract. They were named in honor of Robert Fulton, the inventor of the steamboat, who, in 1811, was commissioned by the Legislature to explore a route for inland navigation between the Hudson and the Lakes.

During the war of 1812, the Adirondack wilderness was traversed for the first time by civilized footsteps, military roads being laid out then to meet the exigencies of the war on the

Canadian border. In that campaign, Henry Eckford and Robert Fulton attained considerable prominence. The former gained distinction by the rapidity with which he constructed a fleet of war vessels on the Great Lakes; and the latter, as an inventor of marine torpedoes, which were intended to destroy the British shipping on Lakes Erie and Ontario. The Eckford Chain* of Lakes was named in honor of one of these patriots, and the Fulton Chain in honor of the other.

The principal point of entry to the region of the Fulton Chain has hitherto been at Boonville, a station on the Utica and Black River Division of the Rome, Watertown and Ogdensburg Railroad. Leaving the cars at Boonville, a stage ride of twelve miles carries one to Moose River Tannery — or Lawrence, as it is now called — which is situated on the line between Lewis and Herkimer Counties. The western boundary of the proposed State Park is also crossed here, and the Great Forest is entered, which extends eastward for seventy miles to the valley of the Schroon River.

From Lawrence a road, rough and well-nigh impassable, leads to the Old Forge Dam, on the outlet of First Lake. The State dam at this point raises the water in the outlet so that the little steamers which ply between here and Fifth Lake can run to the dock at the Old Forge Hotel. The First Lake is over two miles from the dam, but since the water in the outlet has been raised the lake seems to extend to the Old Forge.

With the opening of the Adirondack and St. Lawrence Railroad, the Old Forge is easily reached by rail from Albany or Herkimer, there being a station at this point. The place derives its name from the iron works built here in 1813, by Charles Frederick Herreshoff. He was a Prussian by birth, and a son-in-law of Col. John Brown, who purchased this and the surrounding lands in 1798, and which are still known as Brown's Tract. Herreshoff cleared a large amount of land, erected buildings for his tenantry, and stocked the land with choice cattle. He opened and worked a mine of iron ore near by and

* The chain consisting of the Blue Mountain, Eagle, and Utowana Lakes was once known as the Eckford Chain.

† Adirondack division of the New York Central Railroad.

erected a forge. Only one ton of iron was made at this forge, every pound of which cost over a dollar in gold. His efforts, which were on a magnificent scheme, resulted in disastrous failure, and his plans for a vast baronial estate ended like a dream. In the despondency caused by the wreck of his fortune, the proud, aristocratic man went into the neighboring forest, and with a pistol shot ended his life and its fruitless labors.

The Fulton Chain consists of eight connecting lakes, each of which has its numerical designation for a name. They are connected by small streams, which serve as outlet and inlet, the whole system discharging its waters through First Lake into the main outlet, which empties into the north branch of Moose River about two miles below the Old Forge. First Lake has an elevation of 1,684 feet above the level of the sea, and Eighth Lake is 119 feet higher still. From the Old Forge Dam, on the outlet of First Lake, to the farther end of Eighth Lake, the distance is twenty-one miles by boat and carries. The general westward direction coincides with that of the river and water system of the Western Forest, whose parallel lines form an interesting natural feature that has attracted the attention of geologists, the scientists claiming that the coincidence of their direction is not accidental, but the result of a law whose operations were in their direction and on several parallels.*

The old dam which Herreshoff built at the forge is about forty feet long, and forms a part of the present dam. The back flow from the original structure extended as far as Fourth Lake, where it raised the water two feet. But the State took possession of the old dam in 1878, for reservoir purposes, and raised it four feet higher, causing an additional rise of that amount in Fourth Lake. As a result the water is navigable for small steamers all the way from the outlet of Fifth Lake to the Forge, and, fortunately, without any serious damage to the timber on the shores.

* Vanuxem's Geology of New York.

From the steamboat landing at Old Forge it is two and one-half miles to the First Lake, after which the distances are as follows:

	Miles.
First Lake.....	1½
Second Lake.....	1
Third Lake.....	1
Fourth Lake.....	6
Fifth Lake	½
Carry	½
Sixth Lake.....	½
Inlet.....	1
Seventh Lake.....	2
Inlet.....	1½
Carry	1
Eighth Lake.....	1½

From the latter place there is a carry of one and a quarter miles to Brown's Tract Inlet, a very crooked, narrow stream which runs into Raquette Lake. Although this carry ends not far from Raquette Lake, the windings of this inlet necessitate a row of four miles in getting there. But having pulled up Brown's Inlet from Raquette Lake, the carry referred to is all that separates it from the Fulton Chain. Hence, parties traveling through Raquette Lake can easily make a side trip through the famous chain. It is a two days' journey, however, from Raquette Lake to the Old Forge Hotel and back.

The first three lakes, starting at First Lake, are not large, and are closely connected, the boat passing quickly from one into the other. Near First Lake is Indian Point, from which place Nat. Foster, the trapper, shot and killed an Indian named Drid; for which Foster was arrested, tried and acquitted. This event occurred in 1833, but it still forms an interesting story, and the guide should be asked to tell it.

The inlet between Third and Fourth Lake is about forty rods in length, with a winding course that offers a pretty piece of boating. Another State dam was built at the outlet of Sixth



FOREST DESTRUCTION, CAUSED BY A STATE DAM.
Sixth Lake, Fulton Chain.

S. R. Stoddard, Photo.

Lake, for the purpose of storing water for the benefit of the Black River Canal. This dam has killed the timber on the shores of Sixth and Seventh Lakes, changing their beautiful scenery into a dismal, desolate waste of drowned land. In place of wooded shores and mossy banks, there are now wide marshes filled with the bare, whitened trunks of dead trees.

The Fulton Chain, like all the localities in the western part of the Great Forest, has but little mountain scenery in view. The surrounding country is hilly and far from level; but the few elevations in sight do not attain the towering height of the Adirondack peaks. Some of them, however, are noticeable, and have been invested with the dignity of mountain names. On the north shore of Third Lake is a high ridge called Bald Mountain, whose crest, entirely bare of vegetation, is formed of gneissoid rock. In places its summit resembles the roof of a house, along whose smooth, bare rocks one can walk three-quarters of a mile. The southern side has a sheer descent of several hundred feet, presenting to the lakes a grand, massive wall nearly a mile in length. Another mountain, with a long ridge of pleasing outlines, looms up on the southwest beyond the waters of Little Moose, and forms an attractive feature in the views from Second Lake. Near the head of Fourth Lake stand Nipple Top and Black Mountain, either of which offers a fine view from its summit and is ascended by an easy trail.

Fourth Lake is the largest in the chain and ranks among the finest in the Wilderness. The sail over its blue waters, along its quiet, leafy bays, and around its shady islands, is a most delightful one. Several small steamers or launches run from the head of this lake to the Old Forge, affording a charming trip. But the Eighth Lake is the gem of the chain. No axe has ever echoed on its solitary shores, and the smoke of a forest fire has never risen from its wooded slopes. On every side the land is covered with primeval forests which rise from its crystalline waters to the summit of the surrounding ridges, a grand amphitheater of Nature.

The State owns all the land in this vicinity. Its title covers a solid block of over 60,000 acres, and includes the Eighth and

Raquette Lakes. On the shore of the former is a little cabin — the only sign of life upon the lake — which is used at times by the hunter who squatted there. The existence of this shanty is made the basis of an application to redeem land from the tax sales by which the State acquired it some twenty years ago. The application claims the right to redeem on account of "occupancy." As the occupancy in this case was of a character that clearly was never contemplated in the law, this Commission has filed evidence in the Comptroller's office to that effect, together with their objections to the cancellation of the State's title and the arguments against such action.*

The Fulton Chain has hitherto been but little frequented by the tourists who throng the other resorts in the Great Forest. This is due largely to its inaccessibility, the wagon road from Moose River Tannery to Old Forge having been a sore trial to any traveler. But with the easy access offered by the Adirondack and St. Lawrence Railroad these lakes will undoubtedly receive a large increase of visitors, and the attention which their many attractions so fully warrant.

Sportsmen have always been partial to this region, the absence of tourists and invalids leaving them undisturbed in their pursuit of the fish and game which are so abundant here. Another reason which attracted sportsmen to this place is the large number of outlying lakes and ponds accessible from the Fulton Chain, and which are noted for their never-failing supply of trout and deer.

Among these neighboring lakes is the Moose River Chain, lying to the north of Fourth Lake, and situated, mostly, in Township 8, Moose River Tract. The waters comprising this chain are the First, Second, Big Moose, Moss, and Cascade Lakes, which, with the numerous ponds and small lakes near them, form a hunting and fishing ground that is not excelled in the whole forest.

Big Moose is one of the larger lakes of the Adirondacks, being nearly five miles long, and over a mile wide, with a large, land-

* This application was denied by the Comptroller.

locked bay on its north shore, nearly detached from the main body of water. Now that this lake is so accessible—it being only three miles from the station on the Adirondack and St. Lawrence Railroad, by a good carriage road—it is becoming quite popular. It is surrounded by a score of small ponds and lakes, all of which offer good fishing, and are reached by short carries. Going north, it is only three miles to Twitchell Lake, one of the best places for speckled trout in the entire wilderness; going south, a trail of five miles, including boating, brings one to the Fourth Lake of the Fulton Chain. The entire territory about Big Moose and Twitchell is now in a private preserve, and fishermen or hunters will need “permits” if they go there.

South of the Fulton Chain, and less than a mile from First Lake, lies the beautiful sheet of water known as Little Moose. This lake has a beach of pure white sand, and the bottom, which is also covered with white sand, can easily be seen through its crystal waters to a great depth. Panther Lake, a wild, romantic spot, surrounded by the pristine beauty of the original wilderness, is but a short distance from Little Moose, into which its waters flow, both lakes being tributary to the south branch of the Moose River.

On the northern edge of the Great Forest, in Franklin County, lies the pretty sheet of water known as

MEACHAM LAKE.

It is situated in a wooded tract nearly detached from the main body, and for this reason is not within the borders of the proposed Park. Still there is a dense forest for several miles on the north and east. The lake is about three miles long by two wide, without any islands to obstruct the view of its encircling woods and distant mountains. A good part of its shores show a beach of clean, gray sand, and along the northern end some grand old pines form a colonnade along its edge. It lies within a forest park of its own, and, with the exception of the hotel under the pines referred to, there is no dwelling within five miles. The Osgood River, or outlet of Osgood Pond, forms the inlet, empty-

ing into the lake at its southern end; and but a short distance from it is the outlet, or commencement of the east branch of the St. Regis River. De Bar Mountain, a well-forested elevation four miles northeast of Meacham Lake, is the principal summit in its vicinity, while to the south, across the lake, may be seen the outlines of Madawasca and Rice Mountains, together with others which offer a handsome mountain view. There are several small lakes and ponds near by which add to the hunting and fishing for which the place has been so long famous. The State owns a large amount of land in this township, its lines including the southern end of the lake; but a good part of the shore included by the State property is low and marshy.

Malone, the county seat of Franklin County, and one of the many gateways to the wilderness, is twenty-five miles from Meacham Lake, and directly north of it. The northern part of the intervening country is open, farming land. The southern part is mostly covered by forests, and contains several noted resorts for sportsmen, among which are Branch Pond, Indian Lake, and Ragged Lake, the latter pronounced by Hammond* to be "as lovely a sheet of water as ever enthusiast described, or poet portrayed in song."

The nearest railway station to Meacham Lake is "Paul Smith's" Station on the Northern Adirondack Railroad, twelve miles distant. The road thither leads through Meacham Forest for about five miles, after which it passes through the "Burnt Grounds," a sandy tract reaching all the way to the railroad. This tract was burned over repeatedly until it became entirely denuded; but it is now reforesting itself in places with the usual growth of small poplars and cherries. The trees composing the peculiar growth incidental to such conditions are short-lived; and it is expected that the worthless varieties which now cover the "Burnt Grounds" will soon be succeeded by a more permanent and valuable growth. Before reaching the railroad station, the road runs for nearly two miles along Follensby, Jr., Pond, which derives its name from the same recluse whose name was given to a larger lake near the Raquette River.

* Hills, Lakes, and Forest Streams: S. H. Hammond.

Meacham Lake is also reached by a drive from the Lower St. Regis (Paul Smith's) of twelve miles. This road, after leaving Paul Smith's, runs for the first seven miles or so over sandy plains, from which most of the timber has been burned or stripped, the only redeeming feature being the pretty ponds which lie along the way. When within five miles of Meacham Lake the road joins the one from "Paul Smith's" Station, and leads for the remainder of the way through the pleasant forest already mentioned.

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY.

Some of the most valuable timber in the Great Forest covers the area embraced by the southern and southeastern part of St. Lawrence County. Here is an unbroken wilderness in which but little lumbering has been done as yet, and which, though not so replete with attractive scenery as some other parts, is noteworthy for its supply of game. Though nearly devoid of mountain views, there are some places here which have become favorite spots with summer residents on account of the charming attractions which they possess. Prominent among these places in St. Lawrence county is

LAKE MASSAWEPIE,

the fountain head of the Grasse River, and along whose shady banks lie the beautiful grounds of Childwold Park. This place was formerly reached by the Northern Adirondack Railroad, whence a drive of seven miles leads from Childwold Station to Childwold Park, or Lake Massawepie. The road runs all the way through the forest, skirting the base of Mount Matumbla, and crossing the Raquette River at a point where its rocky stream offers a pleasant picture. Leaving the valley of the Raquette, the road crosses a mountain ridge, and enters the watershed of the Grasse River, passing by some pretty sheets of water before Massawepie is reached. But this place is now accessible from the Adirondack and St. Lawrence Railroad, which has a station five miles south of it, from which a good road affords a delightful ride through the woods.

The lake, which is about 1,400 feet above sea level, is over two miles long, crescent-shaped, and offers good fishing, boating, and pleasant scenery. It seems to have had at one time a greater area, traces of former shores being plainly visible for several miles on a terrace which is over 100 feet above its present level. Moosehead Mountain is five miles north, with its summit still bare from the effects of the "Great Windfall," or cyclone, which years ago hewed a path through this part of the forest.

The old track of the cyclone, known as the "Great Windfall of 1845," is an interesting study. It is but a few miles from Childwold Park, and is well worth a visit. This tornado occurred September 20, 1845, commencing in Upper Canada and extending 200 miles in a direct line, almost due east, to Lake Champlain. At three o'clock in the afternoon it was at Antwerp, Jefferson County, N. Y.; at five, it swept across the Saranac; and at six it was at Burlington, Vt. At noon of that day persons on the shores of Lake Ontario, at Coburg, in Canada, noticed a violent ebb and flow of the lake at short intervals. The out-rushing tide was so strong that, in one place, a steamer could not make port. The phenomenon was supposed by many to be the effect of an earthquake; but it was probably due to the action of this cyclone upon the face of the lake.

The windfall commenced its work near Antwerp, passed eastward, and seems to have been more violent in some places than in others, the most marked destruction of timber occurring about six miles north of Lake Massawepie. Although forty-seven years have elapsed, the path of the cyclone is still to be seen here, extending for twenty-five miles in length and varying from a half to over a mile in width. Its appearance was described by those who observed it at a little distance, as awfully sublime, it being a cloud of pitchy blackness, from which vivid lightnings and deafening thunders incessantly proceeded, while the air was filled to a great height with materials carried up from the earth, and branches torn from the trees. Torrents of rain and hail fell along the borders of the track, and much damage was done by lightning. It entered the county in Fowler,

crossed that town, and passed into Edwards, where it entered the uninhabited forest, and was not further witnessed.

In 1864, nineteen years after, Mr. N. W. Coffin, in his "Forest Arcadia," writes of this windfall, and says: "It is impossible to describe this mass of timber as it appeared not long afterward; every tree, great and small, within the line of its course, taken up by the roots, and thrown together in the most unutterable confusion, and piled in some places to the height of the tallest trees left standing upon its margin.

"In course of time the timber became dry; lying across the track of the hunter on his journey to the lake and the streams beyond, it presented a most vexatious obstruction. Doubtless, some selfish person of this class, reckless of the injury he might do to the property of another, on which he was pursuing his unlicensed sport, yielded to the temptation presented by the combustible condition of the branches and set it on fire. The principle of decay had done the rest, and the dead trunks and roots of the trees have disappeared from the ground, leaving it as clear as a prairie. A plough may be run for miles along the clearing, even into Jamestown and Piercefield, without striking a rock; and, digging deep into the soil, there will be found only the layers of decayed vegetation, the waste of successive forests."

The foregoing description is valuable in this, that it shows the condition of the windfall as it appeared then, some thirty years ago or more. But a special examination of this strip of land was made recently by the forester in charge of that district, who reports that the old track is thickly overgrown with poplar; and that the poplar growing there is the largest and healthiest he has seen, the greater part of the trees exceeding eighteen inches in diameter. In no other place in the Great Forest has the second-growth poplar, which succeeded a fire, attained a diameter of ten inches.

It may be that, contrary to Mr. Coffin's supposition, the fallen timber was not burned, but perished by decay; in which case the vigorous condition of the present growth is easily accounted for.

Situated at the western end of the "Great Windfall" is

CRANBERRY LAKE,

the largest body of water in the Great Forest of Northern New York. It is in the southern part of St. Lawrence County, and in a primeval wilderness extending several miles on either side. The lake proper is about eight miles long; but a dam at its outlet has raised the water fifteen feet, overflowing the lower shores of the inlet and greatly extending the area of its surface. It has an altitude of 1,540 feet above tide. The Oswegatchie River serves both as inlet and outlet, its water flowing through the lake. The scenery along its shores was injured to some extent by the dam referred to, the back-water forming marshes and killing the timber. But this overflow occurred so long ago that the dead and fallen trees have mostly disappeared; and the broad lake with its islands and surrounding hills will now compare favorably with any in its wealth of picturesque attractions.

Bear Mountain rises boldly from its eastern shore, while to the southeast, about three miles distant, stand Cat, Wolf, Graves, Iron, and Silver Lake Mountains. From the south end of the lake a trail of six miles leads to Mud Lake, and the Bog River Chain; also a trail of five miles to Silver Lake, noted for its abundance of speckled trout.

The region about this lake abounds in game, the hounding of deer being prohibited in St. Lawrence County by law. The fishing is good, also, and the largest brook trout in the Adirondacks are found in this vicinity.

Cranberry Lake is thirty miles from Canton by wagon road, the last sixteen miles of the ride leading through the pleasant shade of a dense forest, over a good, smooth road. Another route is by the Carthage and Adirondack Railway, to Oswegatchie Station, thirty-nine miles from Carthage. From the station a poor road leads to the inlet, seven miles distant, from which place a boat is taken to the "Head of the Flow," where a small steamer may be boarded for a ride down the lake.

Star Lake — formerly Big or Point Lake — is two miles from Oswegatchie Station, and is one of the favorite resorts in this

part of the forest. It is star-shaped, and about one mile in diameter. It is noted for the crystalline purity of its waters, and charming scenery.

Lake Bonaparte is also on the line of this railroad, but on the western edge of the forest. It is five miles long by two wide, contains some islands, and has clean bold shores. A small steam launch plies upon its waters. This lake takes its name from Joseph Bonaparte, King of Naples, who had a summer house once upon its shore. He was a brother of Napoleon the First, and had a summer residence at Natural Bridge, a few miles distant, during his enforced retirement in America, the State of New York having passed a special act in 1825, enabling him, as an alien, to hold the real estate which he purchased there.

The terminus of the Carthage and Adirondack Railway is at Benson Mines, where extensive mining operations are carried on, the entire region being underlaid with valuable ores and minerals. There is an inexhaustible quantity of magnetic ore here, of which Prof. Emmons, a former State Geologist, said "that no ore in this country has produced iron of a better quality."

The Mineral Plains, which have attracted some attention, are about five miles from the inlet of Cranberry Lake. They embrace several hundred acres of magnetic sand, a level, treeless expanse, upon which there is no vegetation except huckleberry bushes or wild strawberry vines. Its area is sharply defined by the large trees of the surrounding forest which grow closely along its edge.

The State owns a large amount of land on and near Cranberry Lake, part of which lies on either side of the inlet and is worthless by reason of the overflow caused by the dam. A short distance from the lake, and north of the inlet, there is a large piece of State land which is heavily timbered and is in good condition.

Although the principal business of the Carthage and Adirondack Railway is in hauling the product of the mines which are situated at its terminus, it does a large and profitable business in hauling wood-pulp over its line. This pulp timber, which is cut in four-foot lengths, is here loaded on cars in immense quan-

ties, and shipped to the numerous pulp mills at Watertown and along the Black River. The introduction and extension of this railroad has developed and stimulated the cutting of pulp timber in this hitherto untouched forest to an extent that indicates the complete and speedy removal of the spruce. For, in this locality, the spruce is cut as low as three inches in diameter, any size being available in the mills which manufacture wood-fiber by the chemical process.

THE WOODHULL LAKES,

are situated on the west side of the forest, in Herkimer County, about seven miles south of the Old Forge, and are easily accessible from the Adirondack and St. Lawrence Railroad, which runs near them. They include Woodhull Lake, Chub Lake, The Bisby Lakes, Canachagala Lake, and Little Woodhull Lake, all of which drain into the Great Woodhull Creek—some of them through artificial channels—and thence into the Black River. Three miles south of this system are the lakes known as the North Branch Reservoir (formerly Lake Sophia) and the South Branch Reservoir, which flow into the Black River direct. This entire system has been dammed in various places, and the lakes converted into storage reservoirs for the Black River Canal. But the “feeder,” through which this water flows, enters the canal at a point south of its summit level, and, consequently, the water is diverted to the Erie Canal and the Hudson watershed, an operation which has caused considerable complaint among the mill-owners on the Black River.

Some of the lakes belonging to the Woodhull Reservoirs are of good size and delightfully situated. The shores of all these reservoir lakes belong to the State, sufficient land around each for the establishment of a “flow line” having been taken by right of eminent domain. As the flow line in each case was established far enough above the usual level of the water to amply provide for any possible rise in the lakes from further damming or other causes, there is a wide strip of public land around each body of water.

Closely adjoining the South Branch Reservoir, but situated on the Hudson watershed, lies

LAKE HONNEDAGA,

better known by its old name of Jock's Lake. It is designated on the maps of the early surveyors as Transparent Lake; but afterward it became known as Jock's Lake, deriving the name from Jock Wright, a noted trapper and hunter of that region. The Club, which has recently acquired the tract on which it is situated, has ordered the name changed to Lake Honnedaga, an Indian word meaning "clear water," and by which, it is claimed, this lake was known to the aboriginal tribes. It is about six miles long, and varies in width from one-half mile to a mile and a half. It is 2,187 feet above the sea, and is the highest lake in the Great Forest which has attained any prominence as a pleasure resort.

LAKE PLEASANT.

It is the boast and glory of the Adirondack Park that there is no locality within its borders but what is replete with beautiful scenery and charming attractions; and so its southern townships, in addition to the merit of accessibility, can show lakes and mountains whose attractions have made their region extremely popular, not only with the people of the Mohawk Valley, but with visitors from far off States. The principal attractions in this region are in the vicinity of Lake Pleasant, a beautiful sheet of water whose charming surroundings fully justify its name. The gateway to this part of the wilderness is found at Fonda, on the New York Central Railroad, where a branch road, the Fonda, Johnstown and Gloversville Railroad, runs due north to Sacandaga Park, and the pretty village of Northville. From the latter place a good stage road leads up the beautiful valley of the Sacandaga River to the village of Wells, and thence over a mountain ridge to Lake Pleasant. The road touches the lake at its northeastern end, where there is a collection of summer hotels, known as Newton's Corners; and then skirting the north shore runs to the village of Sage-

ville, the county seat of Hamilton County. Sageville has the distinction of being the smallest shire town in the State, although it represents the third largest county. There are hardly enough houses to warrant calling it a village.

Lake Pleasant is nearly five miles long by two wide, with an altitude of 1,706 feet above the sea, and flows into the east branch of the Sacandaga River, one of the tributaries of the Hudson. The drive along its north shore is a very pleasant one, the view embracing the high wooded slopes on the opposite side amid whose foliage summer cottages appear in various places to good advantage.

At its western end a small inlet, of a few rods in length, leads directly into Round Lake, one of the most beautiful sheets of water in the entire forest. This lake is not round, but crescent-shaped, and is about four miles long. It has clean, rocky shores, and is further adorned by a lovely island, situated half-way along the inner curve of the crescent. The view across this lake from the hotels at Sageville is superb, its bright waters and pleasant shores being encircled by distant mountain ranges that frame it like a picture. As there are seven Round Lakes, or Round Ponds in the Great Forest, the citizens of Sageville, deeming it worthy of a more distinctive name, have, after due consultation in the matter, rechristened it Sacandaga Lake, and the latter designation has accordingly been used on the map just issued by the Commission. For similar reasons, the little lake near by, formerly known as Long Lake, has also been renamed, and bears the more appropriate name of Fawn Lake.

From Sageville a good road leads eight miles to

PISECO LAKE,

another favorite resort for sportsmen and summer campers. This lake is six and a half miles long and over one mile wide. There is some cleared land along the southern shore; but on the opposite side a mountain ridge, covered with a dense forest, rises steeply and forms a shelter for the cottages and camps which nestle at the water's edge along its base. The lake takes its name from old "Pezeeko," an Indian hunter, who once lived

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ISLAND IN SACANDAGA LAKE.

W. B. Wemple, Photo.

a lonely, secluded life upon its shore. Oxbow Lake is near Piseco, and lies along the road from Sageville. It is a pretty sheet of water, about two miles long, with high, well wooded shores.

From Lake Pleasant there are trails leading northward into a part of the forest which is less frequented than any other, and which contains some good hunting ground, its inaccessibility having preserved the fish and game. Prominent among its lakes are Spruce Lake, Balsam Lake, The Cedar Lakes and Deaver Pond. A road leads also to Lewey Lake, another favorite resort for hunters; but the latter place is reached easier from Indian Lake, via Blue Mountain Stage Line.

Mention should be made here, also, of the

WEST CANADA LAKES,

which, on account of their wild beauty, secluded situation, and remarkable abundance of fish and game, are entitled to some space in any report on the Adirondack wilderness. These lakes are about fifteen miles northwest of Lake Pleasant, from which place they are accessible by a hunter's trail only; although, for part of the distance, there is an old, abandoned wagon road. They have an elevation of 2,348 feet above tide, and are the fountain head of the West Canada Creek, the principal tributary of the Mohawk.

The lakes which are rather small — about one mile long each — are situated on one of the great "divides" of the wilderness. Within a radius of four miles are other lakes and ponds from whence, in an opposite direction, the Cedar, Miami and Jessup Rivers flow to the Hudson, and the Moose and Black Rivers to the St. Lawrence.

The lakes, separately, are known as the West, Middle, and East Canada, and are called the West Canada* because they are the source of the West Canada Creek. They are on Township 8, Moose River Tract, adjoining the large preserve of the Adirondack League Club, but in a locality so remote that it is

* These lakes should not be confounded with Fish Lake and Caroga Lake in Fulton County which are also known as "The Canada Lakes."

never reached by the tourist, and but seldom by the hunter. There are no waterways by which the tourist, with his guide-boat, can penetrate this region, nor traveled roads over which he can ride. Although one of the most secluded spots, it is equal to any in all the points needed for a sportsman's ideal camp. The axe of the lumberman has not yet been heard in these woods; the hills and lakes still retain their primeval beauty. To the tired invalid or easy-going tourist the region of these wild lakes will be an unknown land for a long time to come; but to the hardy sportsman, willing to undertake the journey, it will prove a "Happy Hunting Ground."

The State owns a large amount of land in the vicinity of Lake Pleasant and Piseco Lake, which has been increased by the purchases made by the Commission during the past year. The land about the Cedar Lakes and Lewey Lake is owned almost entirely by the State, and the scattering lots in the adjoining town of Benson have, through recent purchases, been converted into a solid tract.

In returning to the Mohawk Valley from the Lake Pleasant region, the trip may be pleasantly varied by driving from Piseco Lake to Gloversville — by way of Arietta — the road running along the borders of Fish Lake* and Caroga Lake. The former is a beautiful forest mere, with a large number of summer residences scattered among the groves along its bank.

ESSEX COUNTY.

But any report on the Adirondack Plateau would be incomplete that failed to make some mention of that interesting region in Essex County which lies along the highway running

FROM LONG LAKE TO SCHROON RIVER.

This locality is generally approached from the terminus of the Adirondack Railway, at North Creek, from which point a good road runs northward to Newcomb, and the Adirondack Club House, intersecting near Tahawus Post-office the highway that runs east and west between Long Lake and Lake Champlain.

* Also known as "The Canada Lakes."

Leaving the railway station at North Creek, the ascent commences immediately; but the road is kept in good condition, and a team can be sent along at a pleasant pace. For nine miles the country is open farming land, and then, having passed through the villages of Olmstedville and Minerva, the border of the forest is reached soon after passing through the latter place. But few tourists travel this route, the road being used almost exclusively by those interested, either directly or indirectly, in the lumbering operations which are carried on in the Newcomb and Marcy region.

Soon after entering the forest, a road branching off to the west is passed, which leads to the grounds of the Adirondack Preserve Association,* about eight miles distant. This club owns 4,583 acres in Township 16, Totten and Crossfield Purchase, Essex County, well located for sporting purposes and recreation. Mink Lake and one of the many "Loon" Lakes are included in this preserve.

Before reaching Aiden Lair the road enters Township 26, and for six miles passes through large tracts of State land, the most of this township having been acquired through defaulted taxes in 1877. Some of this land has been denuded by fire, but it was not burned so badly, but that it is now reforesting itself. Of these burned tracts there is one, in particular, which offers an interesting study in reforestation, owing to a peculiarity in the process. The thick growth of small poplar and cherry which sprang up immediately after the fire is rapidly dying off and disappearing; but it, in turn, is being succeeded by a promising, vigorous growth of spruce and balsam.

In this vicinity there is another piece of second growth which is composed largely of white pine. The trees are strong and thrifty, and in a few years will be large enough for manufacturing purposes. This second growth white pine is inferior to the original. The trees are smaller, very knotty, and yield but little clear stuff. Still, the knots are small, red, and sound, and the

* There is an "Adirondack Club Preserve" (100,000 acres); an "Adirondack Mountain Reserve" (36,000 acres); and "Adirondack League Club" (116,000 acres) and the "Adirondack Preserve Association" (4,583 acres).

lumber meets with a ready sale. The time is near when the propagation of this pine must enter largely into our forest management.

The tract of second growth white pine just referred to lies along the road that runs from Minerva, through the Hoffman Township, within and near the southeastern boundary of the Park. The land was once cleared and used for farming purposes; but it was abandoned, and it is now overgrown with a thrifty crop of conifers. Had these lands been denuded by fire, instead of farming, the resulting crop of trees would have been of a different kind. Poplars and pin cherries would probably have appeared in that case. The fire burns into the ground, and destroys every hidden seed. Other seeds, distributed by well-known agencies, are subsequently deposited on its arid surface, of which the poplar and bird cherry are the only ones that will germinate in the then unfruitful soil.

The tourist who may have seen the name Aiden Lair on his map, will note with some surprise the entire absence of any village or post-office at the spot designated by this euphonious and attractive name. A neat and comfortable hotel, which serves as a wayside inn for teamsters and sportsmen, is the only building to mark the town whose prospectus never materialized.

Just beyond Aiden Lair, the road crosses the Boreas River on a substantial iron bridge, newly erected. There is little of scenery or interest along this drive as compared with other localities in the wilderness, and the large tracts thinned by fire or marred by petty unsuccessful attempts at farming, are somewhat depressing. Occasionally some pretty bit of forest scenery relieves the monotony of the ride; notably so, the grove of tall, symmetrical balsams that line the road along the valley at Vanderwerker Creek. Five miles from Newcomb the east and west highway referred to is reached, and then, turning to the west, the thirty miles drive from North Creek Station ends at Newcomb Village.

But, starting from Long Lake, and taking the main highway leading eastward to the Schrecon River and Lake Champlain, Newcomb Village is reached by a drive of fourteen miles, the

road leading the entire distance through the magnificent forest which covers Township 20.* In winter the drive along this forest road is delightful; and if one is fortunate enough to pass along soon after a storm, the drooping branches of the cone-shaped balsams, heavily laden with their clinging mantle of snow, afford a rare and beautiful sight. However grand the deciduous trees may appear in their autumn dress of scarlet and gold, they are not more beautiful than the evergreens when clad in the ermine robes of winter.

Newcomb Village is small, and the farm-houses composing it are scattered along the road for a mile or more. It contains a church, store, post-office, printing office, blacksmith shop, and a large, comfortable hotel; and, during winter time, the lumbering in its immediate vicinity creates considerable business. The population of the entire town of Newcomb, including the village, numbered 237 by the census of 1880, and does not vary much from that now. Although the village has never been known as a summer resort, it is not without advantages in this respect, having a good elevation, surrounding forests, pure air, mountain scenery, pretty lakes, and fair hotel accommodation. Mount Goodenow is situated near the village to the southwest, while to the north the peaks of Santanoni, Colden, and others of the Marcy Range are in plain view. Two handsome bodies of water, Rich Lake and Lake Harris, adjoin the village, and lie along the north side of the road. These lakes are closely connected, and, together, are nearly five miles long, affording some pleasant boating, while the inlet to Rich Lake, Fishing Creek, is noted for its abundant supply of trout.

Following up Fishing Creek a short distance, and thence up through Lily Pad Pond, Long Pond, Catlin Lake, and Round Lake, all connected in one chain, the end is reached at the Hendrick Spring, one of the most remote resources of the Hudson River. Round Lake and Hendrick Spring are on Township 56, nearly all of which belongs to the State. Catlin Lake is a quiet, secluded spot, away from the route of summer travel, although but a short distance from the highway, and is seldom visited

* Not the Township 20 (Macomb's Purchase), in which the Upper Saranac Lake is situated.

except by fishermen and hunters. It is a charming spot. Its shores are well wooded, with here and there a beach of clean, white sand, while on every side the mountains rise grandly in picturesque forms.

But the most beautiful lake in all this region is Newcomb Lake, or Lake Delia, as it is sometimes called. It is situated four miles from the village, from which a road leads thence through a grand piece of forest, and along a ridge that offers at one point a magnificent view of Mount McIntyre, Colden, and Marcy. The lake is over two miles long, is crescent-shaped, and embellished with several beautiful islands. Santanoni, one of the largest mountains in the State, stands near by, its dark, green slopes commencing at the water's edge; while on the opposite side stand the rounded cones of Moose and Baldwin Mountains. This gem of the wilderness, with its sparkling surface set with emerald islands, has often been pronounced the fairest lake in all the Adirondacks. It certainly is unsurpassed by any in its marvelous beauty.

At the outlet of this lake is a dam built by lumbermen to store the water which was used each spring in flooding out the logs that were drawn to the lake and piled on the ice during the winter. Of late years many of the lumbermen have become alive to the fact that Adirondack property has a value for esthetic as well as commercial purposes; and this dam was constructed so that as soon as the logs were floated out in the early spring the water could be drawn down to its natural level, and thus avoid killing the trees which thickly line the shores of the lake. The water was stored each spring for about ten days only, and then the dam was lowered to the natural level. As a result, there is not a dead tree along the shore, a pleasing contrast to the reckless destruction of timber and scenery resulting from different methods in other places.

Leaving Newcomb, the eastern highway leads to the Schroon River, twenty-seven miles distant, over a roadbed that is fairly smooth and in good order. For the most of the way the forests along the road have disappeared, either through attempts at

farming, or by fires which were widespread and disastrous in their effect.

Eight miles east of Newcomb is Tahawus Post-office, better known, perhaps, as the Lower Iron Works. A road branches here to the north, leading to the Upper Works, ten miles distant, the site of the old abandoned iron works previously described. At Tahawus, or the lower village as once called, a dam was thrown across the Hudson, making a back flow to the outlet of Lake Sanford, which enabled the company to float their barges. These boats carried supplies to the Upper Works, and returned laden with ore. The Adirondack Club, whose headquarters are at the Upper Works, have a club-house also at the lower village, or Tahawus Post-office.

Driving on, the road runs for a few miles through Township 30, nearly all of which is owned by the State. But in passing through it, the view is not an encouraging one. In no place throughout the Great Forest are the ravages from fire so apparent as here. It is worse even than the burned district in Township 26, on the road from North Creek.

Another noticeable thing in passing through Township 30 is the frequent occupancy of State Lands by the farmers, most of whom have comfortable, neat looking farm-houses. This peculiar and perplexing condition of affairs was caused by the pecuniary failure of a large land-owner from whom these farmers had bought land under contract. But the proprietor, failing in business, allowed the land to be bid in by the State for taxes, leaving the farmers without any deeds; and losers, also, of the various amounts which they had paid on their contracts. Although the property now belongs to the State, the cleared land is still assessed to these individuals by the town assessors, and the taxes are paid by the farmers under the mistaken idea that they will thereby obtain a title.

At one place in Township 30 a road branches off to the north leading to the Boreas Pond, a mountain lake situated near the Adirondack Club Preserve, amid the grand, rugged scenery of the Boreas Range.

Crossing the Boreas River, near Nelson La Bier's farm, at the little hamlet known as Boreas River Post-office, the road ascends the ridge, beyond which lies the valley of the west branch of the Schroon River. Passing Sand Pond Mountain, with its impressive outlines, the road descends into the valley and follows the windings of the west branch through some picturesque scenery. The mountains of the Blue Ridge stand on the south side of the stream, and though they do not attain any remarkable elevation, their bold, massive cliffs tower above the valley in fascinating grandeur. Happy the tourist who has a camera ready at this stage of his journey.

Opposite the Blue Ridge a road turns off to the north, which running past Clear Pond leads to Elk Lake, a pleasant summer resort, five miles from the main road. From Elk Lake a trail of six miles leads over the Boreas Mountain to the Upper Ausable Pond.

Emerging from the valley at the foot of the Blue Ridge, the west branch joins the main stream of the Schroon River, near "Root's," and the road, passing through the valley of the Schroon River, turns to the right and runs southward to Schroon Lake, nine miles distant.

From the village of Schroon River to where the road crosses the stream at the Falls, the Schroon River forms the natural boundary of the Park. Though the forest does not come down to the river, the flats along its west bank are more or less overgrown with trees and brush; and it would be well to adopt the river as a boundary as far as the Falls Bridge, in order to forestall the petty farming operations and clearing of land, which are too apt to result in forest fires.

Adirondack Guides.

A prominent feature of Adirondack life is the large number of guides, whose services are indispensable to the tourist in his journeyings through the wilderness. The fisherman and hunter, also, will find that success is largely dependent on the assistance of an intelligent, skillful guide.

True, a person could, if necessary, dispense with their services to some extent; but only at the cost of considerable labor and inconvenience. Those who can afford it will find that employing a competent guide is a judicious expenditure. He earns his money. If a tourist needs his services, he provides a boat and guides the way; pulls at the oars, through sun and rain, for twenty or thirty miles a day; takes the boat out of the water at various places, and, putting it on his head, carries it over the portages, some of which are four miles long. The fisherman needs his services; for the guide knows better than anyone else just where to drop in a line to catch the fish; just where the spring-holes are in which, during hot weather, the speckled trout may be found. In deer hunting, the guide climbs the mountain side in search of the "signs" on which to put out the hounds that are chained to his belt; shows the sportsman on which "runways" the deer will be most apt to pass; and, when the animal is killed, "dresses" the carcass, and carries it to camp. The guide is also necessary in camping out. He knows where the cool spring or brook may be found by which the tent must be pitched, or the shanty, built of boughs or bark, erected. He prepares the bed of balsam twigs, and, being a good axeman, provides the wood for the fire which burns brightly each night before the camp, furnishing light and warmth, and the most attractive feature of camp life. He is skilled in cooking; in addition to trout and venison smoking hot, he

will serve his guests with Adirondack flapjacks and other tempting dishes peculiar to his woodland cuisine. Happy the tourist, fisherman, or hunter, who can secure the services of a competent guide.

The guides are, for the most part, intelligent, sober, and industrious. That there should be some exceptions is natural; but they are few. During the winter many of them work in the lumber camps. When the ice goes out with the spring freshets, they join the river drivers, and work at driving logs, an employment for which strong, active men are always in demand.

Soon after the ice goes out, which, in our northern lakes occurs often in May, the fishing season opens. The large number of sportsmen who throng into the woods in May and June, on every railroad and from every direction, furnish employment for a large number of guides. The guide provides a boat, furnishes bait, carries the boat over the trails leading to the neighboring ponds or streams, cleans the fish, and packs them properly in case the fisherman wishes to carry some of them home. He is of great assistance, also, in pointing out the exact, circumscribed spots in which it is necessary to cast a line in order to catch trout, places which a fisherman unacquainted with the locality would seldom find.

With the close of the spring fishing the season for summer boarders and tourists commences, and the guide locates at or near a summer hotel. If a guest needs his services he will be found at evening about the piazzas, or in the "guide house," where he sits and smokes and listens to the interminable stories which are an interesting feature of that spot. During the hotel season his principal employment, if in the Lake Region, consists in carrying tourists over the long, hundred-mile routes which traverse the wilderness in various directions. He also secures considerable patronage from the "trippers," parties who make short trips through the lakes to some other hotel for dinner, returning at night. Although the fishing is poor during the summer months he finds frequent employment with persons — often ladies — who want to try their luck with hook and line,



Dayton Ball, Photo.

A FOGGY MORNING IN THE ADIRONDACKS.



Dayton Ball, Photo.

AT McCORMICK'S.

and who generally succeed in getting some fish, to say nothing of a pleasant outing. In the mountain region, the guides during the summer season are in demand for mountain climbing, camping-out parties, picnics, and brook fishing.

With the closing of the summer hotels the hunting season opens, and the guides find employment with the deer hunters whose hounds make the woods echo until the leaves have fallen. And now comes the time when the distinction between the real guide and one who is a mere boatman is quickly apparent. Many of the sportsmen go into camp during the shooting or hounding season. The guide must then have a boat, pack-basket, rifle, and hound of his own, and must understand handling each one of the four. He must be able to pull a good oar so as to head off a deer in the lake and keep it there awhile, if necessary; he must be able to carry a pack-basket loaded heavily with food, dishes, and camp equipments; he must be a quick, sure shot with a rifle, able to kill a running deer at twenty-five rods; and must be enough of a woodsman to know how, when, and where to "put out" hounds so that the deer will go to the runways where his hunters are stationed. If his patron wants to indulge in the questionable sport of "jacking" or night hunting, he must be proficient in rigging up a jack, or a head-light cap, and to paddle his boat through the darkness with that absolutely noiseless motion which, to many, is the great charm of night hunting. When the deer is killed, he must know how to cut it open, take out the inwards, wash and dress it, get it to camp, and hoist it on the "pole." He must be able to run a good camp; must be handy in pitching a tent or building a shanty; ready in cutting wood and keeping up a fire that will not smoke his guests into a fit of profanity; and last, but above all, he must be a good cook, neat in his personal habits, and cleanly in all his cooking arrangements. This may be thought an uncommon list of requirements; but there are plenty of Adirondack guides who can fill the bill in every particular.

Many of the guides are retained for the entire season by cottagers or campers. Some of the most competent ones are hired

by the year as gamekeepers or guides on private preserves and by sportsmen's clubs.

A guide in traveling through the lakes generally carries only one person in his boat, but will, if asked to do so, take an additional passenger without extra charge. The boats, which by some unwritten law are painted blue, are from fifteen to seventeen feet long, weigh from sixty-five to seventy-eight pounds, and cost about sixty-five dollars.

The oarsman sits near the bow, with his passenger in the stern, and the extra passenger, if any, on a middle seat. On landing at a "carry" the guide picks up the boat and, turning it bottom upwards, places it over his head, with its weight resting on his shoulders, using a neck-yoke for that purpose. The passenger is expected to carry his own "duffel" or luggage, which should be limited to a small hand-satchel and a rubber coat. Sometimes a party will employ an extra guide to run a baggage boat, in which case he looks after the duffel.* Where the portages are short the guide carries his boat across; but on some of the longer ones, roads have been made, and a boat-wagon, rigged for this particular purpose, is used to transport the boats and baggage across, a fee, varying from seventy-five cents to one

* "Duffel" is the curious name applied by Edward Eggleston to a volume of short stories issued by D. Appleton & Co., of New York. In his preface the author explains the use of the word duffel as follows, and it is a very interesting etymological explanation:

The once famous Mrs. Annie Grant—known in literature as Mrs. Grant, of Laggan—spent a part of her childhood in our New York Albany, then a town almost wholly given to traffic with the aborigines. To her we owe a description of the setting out of the young American-Dutch trader to ascend the Mohawk in a canoe, by laborious paddling and toilsome carrying around rifts and falls in order to penetrate to the dangerous region of the tribes beyond the Six Nations.

The outfit of the young "bushlafer," as such a man was called in the still earlier Dutch period, consisted mainly of a sort of cloth suited to Indian wants. But there were added minor articles of use and fancy to please the youth or captivate the imagination of the women in the tribes. Combs, pocket mirrors, hatchets, knives, jews-harps, pigments for painting the face blue, yellow and vermilion, and other such things were stored away in the canoe to be spread out as temptations before the eyes of some group of savages rich in a winter's catch of furs. The cloths sold by the traders were called duffel, probably from the place of their origin, the town of Duffel in the Low Countries. By degrees the word was, I suppose, transferred to the whole stock and a trader's duffel included all the miscellany he carried with him.

The romantic young bushlafer, eager to accumulate money enough to marry the maiden he has selected, disappeared long ago from the watercourses of northern New York. In his place an equally interesting figure—the Adirondack guide—navigates single-handed the rivers and lakes of the "North Woods." By one of those curious cases of transference that are often found in etymology, the guide still carries duffel, like his predecessor; but not for Indian trading. The word with him covers also an indefinite collection of objects of manifold use.

dollar and fifty cents, being charged for the service in each case. This fee must be paid by the tourist, instead of the guide. There are some long carries, however, on which there are no boat-wagons—Bottle Pond Carry, on the Tupper Lake route, for instance, which is over four miles long—and over which the guides carry their boats on their heads the entire distance.

In the mountain region, where mountain climbing and camping out are a prominent feature of summer life, the guides provide dishes, cooking utensils, and tents,—carrying them in the peculiar-shaped “pack-basket,” made for the purpose, which he slings upon his back and shoulders with leathern straps. The guides in the mountain region are good cooks, noticeably so in Keene Valley, some of whom, on the Upper Ausable Pond, can prepare a meal that will rival the dishes offered by the high-priced *chef* of a summer hotel.

The Adirondack guides have formed an association, with local organizations in various localities—at the Saranacs, Paul Smith's, Long Lake, etc.—each local organization being represented in the association by a member of the executive committee. The officers of the association are: Honorary president, Verplanck Colvin, Albany, N. Y.; vice-presidents, Thomas Redwood, Paul Smith's, N. Y.; Alonzo W. Dudley, Saranac Lake, N. Y.; secretary, John H. Miller, Saranac Lake, N. Y.; treasurer, F. D. Kilburn, Malone, N. Y.

In its constitution, which is printed, there may be found, among others, the following paragraphs:.

ARTICLE I.

Sec. 1. This organization shall be called the Adirondack Guides' Association.

Sec. 2. The object of this association shall be to promote and facilitate travel in the Adirondacks; to secure to the public competent and reliable guides, thus assuring the welfare of tourists and sportsmen; to aid in the enforcement of the Forest and Game Laws of this State; to secure wise and practical legislation on all subjects affecting the interests of the Adirondack region; to maintain a uniform rate of

wages of guides; and to render financial assistance to its members in case of sickness or other disability, or to their families in case of the death of such members.

ARTICLE II.

Membership.

Sec. 1. Any person, to become a member of this association, must be (first) a citizen of the United States of America and have a permanent residence within the State of New York; (second) be at least twenty-one (21) years of age, and have been known as a resident of the Adirondacks for fifteen years; (third) an Adirondack guide, having at least three years' experience as such; (fourth) be a well-equipped, competent and in every way reliable guide.

ARTICLE VIII.

Rate of Wages of Guides.

The uniform rate of wages of the guides, who are members of this association, shall be three dollars (\$3) per day, and their ordinary expenses.

ARTICLE IX.

The members of this association shall assist each other in obtaining employment in preference to those who are not members, and they shall respect each other's rights to camps owned or built by them.

* * * * *

The Adirondack guides, although there is a regiment of them in number, wear no distinctive costume, each one dressing as his taste, purse, or circumstances may dictate. It would be useless to suggest the adoption of a costume. Anything like a uniform would be regarded by them as a sacrifice of their independence. Some of them are negligent and careless as to their personal appearance, which is unfortunate; for as a class they are fine-looking men, well built, with attractive, intelligent faces. There is no reason why they should not adopt some simple, characteristic costume, suitable to their work, with some slight variation to designate each locality.

The guides are earnest advocates of forest preservation. They are always on the alert to prevent forest fires, and will never

leave a camp-fire burning at any spot where they may have halted for a meal or for the night. Before departing they will extinguish every spark, carrying water for a distance, if necessary, to do so. They are always prompt in cautioning smokers against throwing lighted matches or cigar stumps in the dead leaves, and are ready to remind the party of disastrous forest fires which started from just such causes.

Adirondack guides do not roam aimlessly through the entire wilderness in search of employment. Each one attaches himself to some particular locality, and is known or referred to by the locality to which he belongs. Men are spoken of as Fulton Chain guides, Meacham Lake guides, Mirror Lake guides, etc., because they find employment in that particular locality, and remain there when not engaged. Whenever they go elsewhere with a tourist they return to their starting place immediately after being paid off, without waiting to get a passenger for their return trip. It is a rule, strictly adhered to, that the guides in each locality are entitled to the patronage of all tourists, travelers, or sportsmen starting out on trips from that particular place.

The regular pay of a guide is three dollars per day and his expenses, including his time and expenses in returning to the point from which he started. This latter charge is not generally understood, and not infrequently results in some lively discussion before the bill is paid. The charge, however, is a perfectly proper one, as anyone will see on considering the matter for a moment.

For instance,—a tourist hires a guide to take him from Paul Smith's to Blue Mountain Lake, a much frequented route, requiring a three days' ride. For the three days' journey he must pay the guide three dollars per day, and must pay for the board and lodging of the guide at the hotels along the way; and, in addition, must pay the charges for hauling the boat over the carries on which there are boat-wagons. The guide's board on this route will cost from one dollar and fifty cents to two dollars per day, guides being



S. R. Stoddard, Photo.

ADIRONDACK GUIDES.

been so much misunderstanding as to the rates where a guide makes a return trip alone.

Many will be surprised at the number engaged in this business throughout the wilderness. In the following list will be found the name and post-office address of 626 guides. In preparing this list an effort was made to include only such guides as were known to be competent and reliable. Doubtless, some names have been omitted which should appear in this list. The compilation of such a peculiar directory was necessarily a difficult task.

In addition to this list there are nearly as many more who are boatmen rather than guides; also many who render occasional services to summer people or sportsmen, but who do not devote their entire time to the business during the season.

Prefixed to each local list is given the names of some of the more prominent places of interest to which the guides of that particular locality are accustomed to take people. Lack of space would not permit mention of all the attractive resorts to which they go.

ST. REGIS GUIDES.

PAUL SMITH'S — THE SARANACS — TUPPER LAKES — BOG RIVER CHAIN — BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE — RAQUETTE LAKE — BIG MOOSE — FULTON CHAIN.

James Jaques.

Thomas F. Redwood.

Alfred H. Otis.

Frank Otis.

James Betters.

Frederick W. Rorke.

John Rorke.

Douglas E. Martin.

Patrick H. O'Neil.

John McLaughlin.

Abner Tyler.

Frank Blanchard.

John Sawyer.

Thomas N. Clark.

John Redwood.

Albert S. Otis.

Myron Otis.

George W. Moody.

Edward Rorke.

Frederick E. Martin.

Henry H. Martin.

Fillmore Maloney.

Charles Quartiers.

James M. Cross.

Moses Sawyer.

Chester McCaffrey.

P. O. Address: Paul Smith's, Franklin Co., N. Y.*

* In some instances, in these lists, the guides who live elsewhere have a different address, but letters in such cases would be forwarded or remailed to them.

MEACHAM GUIDES.

MEACHAM LAKE — OSGOOD RIVER — HAYES BROOK — ST. REGIS RIVER — MADAWASCA — DE BAR MOUNTAIN — THE SARANACS.

William H. Sprague.

Lucien Trim.

James H. Bean.

E. P. Perkins.

R. H. Maynard.

Charles M. Haskins.

Lyman DeBar.

Halsey Sprague.

R. R. Woodruff.

Matthew Johnson.

Andrew Rogers.

George Selkirk.

George Laware.

Eugene Smith.

Fremont Fuller.

P. O. Address : Duane, Franklin Co., N. Y.

DUANE GUIDES (LADD'S).

PAUL SMITH'S — MCCOLLUM'S — MEACHAM LAKE — DUANE LAKE — LOON LAKE — LAKE TITUS — STATE DAM — EAGLE POND — DEER RIVER — ST. REGIS RIVER.

William Sprague.

Robert A. Ladd.

F. A. Van Wert.

John Maynard.

P. O. Address : Duane, Franklin Co., N. Y.

MCCOLLUM GUIDES.

ST. REGIS LAKES — MEACHAM LAKE — FOLLENSBY AND OSGOOD PONDS — RAINBOW LAKE — THE SARANACS — CHAIN PONDS — RICE POND.

James Skiff.

George Skiff.

Warren Sprague.

Henry Somers.

Eugene Smith.

Daniel McNeil.

George U. McNeil, Jr.

Zebulon Roabare.

Ernest Hinkson.

P. O. Address : Paul Smith's, Franklin Co., N. Y.

SANTA CLARA GUIDES.

ST. REGIS RIVER — BLUE MOUNTAIN — LONG POND — McENERY POND — FOLLENSBY POND — MEACHAM LAKE.

E. L. Brown.	A. A. Phelps.
John Edwards.	Edward Dows.
John McNeil.	George Campbell.
W. D. Allen.	E. C. Falconer.
John Farmer, Jr.	Millard Sabin.

P. O. Address : Santa Clara, Franklin Co., N. Y.

RAINBOW GUIDES.

RAINBOW LAKE — ROUND LAKE — LOON LAKE — JONES POND — OSGOOD POND — MEACHAM LAKE — SARANAC RIVER — ST. REGIS LAKES.

Frank M. Wardner.	Lorenzo Chase.
John Matthews.	Dayton Bryant.

P. O. Address : Rainbow, Franklin Co., N. Y.

BLOOMINGDALE GUIDES.

THE SARANACS — ST. REGIS WATERS — BIG CLEAR — WHITEFACE MOUNTAIN — MARCY AND McINTYRE RANGE — RAINBOW LAKE — AUSABLE RIVER.

Gardner Maloney.	Jacob Hayes.
Ahaz Hayes.	Rawson L. Hayes.
George Martin.	Ezra Bruce.
Orrin Otis.	E. L. Patterson.
H. L. Abbott.	H. L. Abbott.
John Witcher.	James Patterson.
George Coolin.	Frederick Barnes.

P. O. Address : Bloomingdale, Essex Co., N. Y.

LOON LAKE GUIDES.

ST. REGIS WATERS — SARANAC RIVER — RAINBOW LAKE — OSGOOD POND — MEACHAM LAKE — THE TUPPERS — SARANACS — BLUE MOUNTAIN — FULTON CHAIN.

Fremont F. Smith.	Charles Stickney.
Cyrus Stickney.	Simeon Washburn.
Henry Abbott.	E. M. Merrill.
Patrick Buckley.	James Williams.
Michael Healey.	Eugene Keith.
Oliver Dupre.	

P. O. Address : Loon Lake, Franklin Co., N. Y.

CHATEAUGAY GUIDES.

UPPER CHATEAUGAY LAKE — LOWER CHATEAUGAY LAKE — CHATEAUGAY CHASM — CHAZY LAKE — LYON MOUNTAIN — PLUMADORE POND — RAGGED LAKE.

William Smith.	Shepherd Merrill.
R. M. Shults.	Milton Chesmore.
Milton Chesmore.	Charles E. Merrill.
D. S. Merrill.	W. P. Merrill.
J. W. Davis.	Tyler Harris.
C. W. Bellows.	Nathaniel Collins.
Rufus Robinson, Jr.	James N. Smith.
George Cook.	Warren Fifield.
M. V. B. Shults.	

P. O. Address : Chateaugay Lake, Clinton Co., N. Y.

CHAZY GUIDES.

CHAZY LAKE — CHATEAUGAY LAKES — CHAZY RIVER — LYON MOUNTAIN — SARANAC RIVER — SILVER LAKE.

Arza Turner.	Charles Turner.
Frank Turner.	Benjamin St. Germain.
Moses Minie.	Henry Sweeney.
George Storrs.	Charles Storrs.
Joseph Harris.	

P. O. Address : Dannemora, Clinton Co., N. Y.

BELLMONT GUIDES.

RAGGED LAKE — INGRAHAM POND — ROUND POND — STATE DAM —
LAKE TITUS — CHATEAUGAY LAKES — PLUMADORE POND — SALMON
POND.

William Smith.

Abraham Lester.

Alanson Butterfield.

Andrew Butterfield.

Charles Jones.

Willard Ansbach.

P. O. Address : Mountain View, Franklin Co., N. Y.

LOWER SARANAC GUIDES.

SARANAC LAKE — PAUL SMITH'S — AMPERSAND POND — TUPPER
LAKES — BOG RIVER CHAIN — RAQUETTE RIVER — BLUE MOUN-
TAIN LAKE — FULTON CHAIN.

Eugene Allen.

Hiram Benham.

Lowell Brown.

Andrew Baker.

Calvin Brown.

Charles Covell.

Charles Bartlett.

Edward Cagle.

Elmer Dockum.

Henry Davis.

Alonzo W. Dudley.

Frank Davis.

Luther Evans.

John Foster.

Arlo Flagg.

Edward Flagg.

Silas Flagg.

Perley Graves.

Thomas Healey.

George E. Johnson.

John King.

Robert King.

Douglas Kingman.

Edward Lewis.

Joseph Lamoy.

John H. Miller.

Benjamin R. Moody.

Robert Moody.

"Tidd" Moody.

"Cleve" Moody.

Ransom Manning.

William Manning.

Stephen Martin.

Charles Martin.

George Mussin.

Theodore Melvin.

Charles McCoy.

Robert Nichols.

Thomas Peacock.

Anson Parsons.

Reuben E. Sumner.

Peter Solomon.

Howard Slater.

Warren J. Slater.

William Stearns.

Simeon Torrance.

John Turner.

Carlos Whitney.

Warren Bryant.

Charles Bryant.

Hosea Colbath.

Frederick Colbath.

James Moody.

John Slater.

George Sweeney.

P. O. Address : Saranac Lake, Franklin Co., N. Y.

UPPER SARANAC GUIDES.

SARANAC LAKES—PAUL SMITH'S—BIG CLEAR—LOON LAKE—
TUPPER LAKES—BOG RIVER CHAIN—RAQUETTE RIVER—BLUE
MOUNTAIN LAKE—FULTON CHAIN.

Charles Austin.	Millard Derby.
Charles McCaffrey	Peter O'Malley.
George Otis.	Wesley Woods.
Edward Otis.	Burt Kronk.
Justin Farrington.	Henry Kempton.
David Kronk.	Joseph Otis.
Ransom Sweeney.	Burt Proctor.
William Merrill.	William Keith.
James O'Malley.	Earl Derby.
John Derby.	

P. O. Address: Saranac Inn, Franklin Co., N. Y.

LAKE PLACID GUIDES.

LAKE PLACID—MOUNT MARCY—MCINTYRE—WHITEFACE—
INDIAN PASS—AUSABLE RIVER—SILVER LAKE—THE SARANACS—
AMPERSAND POND.

Edward Brewster.	Martin Brewster.
Miles Kennedy.	Melvin Kennedy.
Edward Kennedy.	John Ormsby.
John Hanmer.	James H. Stanton.
Samuel Barton.	James Kelly.
Marshall Lamoy.	Albert Billings.
"Cash" Lamoy.	Rufus Alford.
Arthur Hayes.	Charles Stevens.
Ellsworth Hayes.	Henry Hanmer.
Harvey Alford.	Henry Packard.
George Alford.	

P. O. Address: Lake Placid, Essex Co., N. Y.

RAY BROOK GUIDES.

LAKE PLACID—MIRROR LAKE—RAY BROOK—SARANAC LAKES—
WHITEFACE MOUNTAIN—AUSABLE RIVER.

John Foster.	McDonough Lamoy.
William Ames.	Daniel Ames.

P. O. Address: Ray Brook, Essex Co., N. Y.

ADIRONDACK LODGE GUIDES.

MOUNT MARCY—MOUNT MCINTYRE—MOUNT JOE—INDIAN PASS—
 AVALANCHE PASS—CLEAR LAKE—LAKE COLDEN—AVALANCHE
 LAKE—PRESTON PONDS.

Willard Streeter.

Charles Wood.

Eugene Smith.

P. O. Address: North Elba, Essex Co., N. Y.

TUPPER GUIDES.

TUPPER LAKES—BEAVER RIVER—BOG RIVER CHAIN—MUD
 LAKE—HORSESHOE POND—THE SARANACS—PAUL SMITH'S—
 RAQUETTE RIVER—BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE—BOTTLE POND—
 LONG LAKE—FORKED LAKE—FULTON CHAIN.

Ernest H. Johnson.

Frank Johnson.

William Dukett.

Daniel Hennessy.

George Davis.

George Pelleren.

George Pittenger.

Daniel Hinkson.

Harvey Freeman.

James McBride.

Charles McBride.

Fred. J. Moody.

George Huntington.

Charles Lester.

John Butler.

James Butler.

George Davis.

George La Fountain.

P. O. Address: Moody, Franklin Co., N. Y.

BEAVER RIVER GUIDES.

NUMBER FOUR—BEAVER LAKE—STILLWATER—TWITCHELL CREEK—
 RED HORSE CHAIN—THE TUPPERS—INDEPENDENCE CREEK—
 OTTER LAKE.

Christopher Wagner.

William R. Smith.

Charles H. Smith.

James C. Dunbar.

Ezra Wetmore.

Martin Segoves.

Eugene Barrett.

Mark Smith.

Charles Griffiths.

James Lewis.

Robert Griffiths.

John Hitchcock.

Henry Lotman.

Isaac Stone.

P. O. Address: Number Four, Lewis Co., N. Y.

OSWEGATCHIE GUIDES.

CRANBERRY LAKE — OSWEGATCHIE RIVER — STERNBERG'S — THE PLAINS — STAR LAKE — LAKE BONAPARTE — GRASSE RIVER.

Byron McCollum.	Edward Young.
George Young.	Webster Partlow.
George Partlow.	Charles Schnyler.
George Nunn.	John McBroom.
H. N. Mullen.	Frederick Phelps.
Irving Ackerman.	George Muir.
John Monaghan.	William Mantle.
Edgar Mantle.	Warren Humes.
Aaron Humes.	William Cole, Jr.
Loren Taintor.	Charles Davis.

P. O. Address: Harrisville, Lewis Co., N. Y.

GRASSE RIVER GUIDES.

CHILDWOLD PARK — LAKE MASSAWEPIE — CATAMOUNT POND — CRANBERRY LAKE — RAQUETTE, ST. REGIS, AND GRASSE RIVERS — SILVER LAKE — BOG RIVER CHAIN — THE TUPPERS.

Robert McCuen.	William H. Storrs.
Ira Dox.	Thomas Rodwell.
John W. Hinkston.	S. H. Marden.
Spenser E. Woodruff.	Alvin Gale.
Charles H. Gale.	Frank Gale.
Arthur Gale.	H. B. Marden.
Solomon R. Benham.	George Shumway.
Edwin Shumway.	Hiram Hutchins.
Moses St. Germain.	C. F. Bruce.
Preston Shurtliff.	Samuel Bartlett.
Dean Seavey.	James Carberry.
Hubert Ferry.	

P. O. Address: Gale, St. Lawrence Co., N. Y.

CRANBERRY LAKE GUIDES.

BIG CRANBERRY LAKE—OSWEGATCHIE RIVER—STERNBERG'S—THE PLAINS—GRASSE RIVER—CHILDWOLD PARK—LAKE MASSAWEPEE—BOG RIVER CHAIN—HORSESHOE POND—THE TUPPERS—SILVER LAKE CHAIN.

Chauncey Westcott.

William Rasbach.

Albert Thompson.

Willard Howland.

Warren Bullock.

Donald Stewart.

Harrison Rasbach.

George Bancroft.

Nelson Howland.

Bernard Burns.

P. O. Address: Harewood, St. Lawrence Co., N. Y.

LONG LAKE GUIDES.

BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE—RAQUETTE LAKE—FULTON CHAIN—FORKED LAKE—THE TUPPERS—BOTTLE POND—SLIM POND CHAIN—RAQUETTE RIVER—THE SARANACS—PAUL SMITH'S—NEWCOMB LAKE.

Ferrand B. Austin.

Henry D. Austin.

Melvin Benham.

Otis Betts.

James Bissell.

Charles B. Cole.

Charles E. Cole.

Simeon Cole.

Alva Cole.

Clayton Cole.

William Cullen.

Edward Cullen.

O. D. Hough.

Howard J. Hanmer.

Robert Hartson.

Benjamin Hall.

Charles Lapell.

Orin B. Lapell.

"Captain" Parker.

Arthur Cary.

Nelson Cary.

Reuben Cary.

R. J. Dunning.

B. F. Emerson.

Wallace Emerson.

Andrew Fisher.

William Gillies.

David Helms.

John Helms.

David Hough.

Joseph Hanmer.

Amos Hough.

Charles E. Hanmer.

Curtis Hall.

David Keller.

John Lapell, Jr.

Justin Lamos.

C. H. Palmer.

Lester Palmer.	George Stanton.
Frank Plumley.*	Lorenzo Towns.
J. D. Plumley.*	Archie Talbot.
John E. Plumley.*	Harry Williams.
Riley Plumley.*	Boyden Robinson.
Handy Plumley.*	John Robinson.
George Palmer.	Isaac Robinson.
William Robinson.	Lyman Russell.
Amos Robinson.	George W. Smith.
John Rickertson.	Gilbert Stanton.
Isaac Sabattis.†	Edward Stanton.
Harry Sabattis.†	Calvin Towns.
Charles Sabattis.†	Joseph Welch.
Willard Sutton.	William Wilson.

P. O. Address: Long Lake, Hamilton Co., N. Y.

RAQUETTE GUIDES.

RAQUETTE RIVER — MARION RIVER — BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE —
FULTON CHAIN — BIG MOOSE — FORKED LAKE — THE TUPPERS —
RAQUETTE RIVER — LONG LAKE — THE SARANACS — PAUL SMITH'S.

Jerome Wood.	Samuel Jenkins.
William Ballard.	Wesley Bates.
J. O. A. Bryere.	Alvah Dunning.
William Cornell.	Richard Bennett.
James Harrington.	Arthur Sheldon.
"Doc" (Francis) La Prairie.	Paul Tibbets.
"Cal" (Alexander) La Prairie.	Hiram Steers.
John Crogan.	Andrew Syma.
Edward Martin.	Seth M. Pierce.
John A. Jones.	Clifton Pierce.
Seth M. Pierce, Jr.	George Jenkins.
John J. Richards.	Warren Steers.

P. O. Address: Raquette Lake, Hamilton Co., N. Y.

* All sons of "Honest John." See "Adirondack Murray's" tales.

† Sons of Mitchell Sabattis, the old Indian guide.

BLUE MOUNTAIN GUIDES.

BLUE MOUNTAIN—EAGLE, UTOWANA, AND RAQUETTE LAKES—LONG LAKE—RAQUETTE RIVER—SARANAC LAKES—PAUL SMITH'S—FULTON CHAIN—FORKED LAKES—THE TUPPERS.

Charles W. Blanchard.	William Kelly.
Michael McGuire.	J. B. McLaughlin.
George Bentley.	Schuyler Kathan.
Daniel Kelley.	Lemuel Kathan.
DeForest Bird.	Edward Bird.
William Taher.	Arthur Blanchard.
Duane Fuller.	George W. Fuller.
Henry Taylor.	A. M. Hammond.
Ralph Merwin.	B. F. Merwin.
Michael Flory.	Norris P. Hale.
P. D. Smith.	Charles Spring.

P. O. Address: Blue Mountain Lake, Hamilton Co., N. Y.

KEENE VALLEY GUIDES.

AUSABLE LAKES—CHAPEL POND—ELK LAKE—CLEAR LAKE—MT. MARCY—BOREAS RANGE—AVALANCHE PASS.

Melvin J. Trumbull.	Legrand Holt.
Arthur Trumbull.	C. W. Trumbull.
E. Beede.	Charles Beede.
Edward Phelps.	James Owen.
Melvin Hathaway.	Wesley ("Pete") Lamb.
Frederick Lamb.	Frank Holt.
John Brown.	Ferdinand Beede.
Harry Beede.	George Hamer.

P. O. Address: Keene Valley, Essex Co., N. Y.

NEWCOMB GUIDES.

CATLIN LAKE—RICH LAKE—LONG LAKE—BOREAS RIVER—BOREAS POND—PRESTON PONDS—LAKE SANFORD—LAKE HENDERSON—INDIAN PASS—AVALANCHE PASS—LAKE COLDEN—OPALESCENT RIVER—MT. MARCY.

Harrison Hall.	Alexander Hunter.
John Hall.	James Wilcox.
Warren Williams.	Daniel Wetherbee.

Samuel Parker.

Franklin C. Chase.

Benjamin Lahey.

John Griffin.

Charles Robinson.

"Denmark."

Arthur Braley.

David Kenison.

Edward Dimmook.

Stephen D. Lamos.

Cornelius McCloskey.

E. Jamison.

*P. O. Address: Newcomb, Essex Co., N. Y.***NORTH HUDSON GUIDES.****BOREAS RIVER—ELK LAKE—SCHROON RIVER—BOREAS POND—
MT. MARCY—NEWCOMB LAKE.**

Alonzo Jordan.

Frank Sprague.

Joseph Hanmer.

Edward Johnson.

George Jordan.

William Forbes.

Henny Thilo.

Frank Elliott.

*P. O. Address: North Hudson, Essex Co., N. Y.***AIDEN LAIR GUIDES.****BOREAS RIVER—HEWITT LAKE—LAKE BALFOUR—VANDERWERKER
CREEK—CATLIN LAKE—TOWNSHIP 26.**

Oliver Daniels ("Ginshang").

Morris Loveland.

Harry Loveland.

Frederick Raymond.

Frederick Loveland.

John Loveland.

Walter O'Connor.

William Raymond.

*P. O. Address: Minerva, Essex Co., N. Y.***ELIZABETHTOWN GUIDES,****MT. HURRICANE—GIANT MOUNTAIN—PUTNAM POND—ELK LAKE—
BOQUET RIVER—AUSABLE RIVER—ROOT'S—SCHROON RIVER—
NEW POND—LINCOLN POND—THE RAVEN.**

M. B. Davis.

Joseph Emmett.

George James.

James Laverty.

Allen Laverty.

Morton Davis.

John James.

Douglas Dunning.

William Laverty.

P. O. Address: Elizabethtown, Essex Co., N. Y.

SCHROON GUIDES.

SCHROON LAKE—BRANT LAKE—LAKE PHARAOH—FRIENDS LAKE—

BOREAS RIVER—ROOT'S.

B. F. Wickham.

Joel Benjamin.

Nathan Jencks.

Michael Jencks.

Byron Knox.

William Taylor.

Burnice Holly.

Allen Bump.

George W. Wickham.

Edward Jencks.

Frederick Jencks.

William Jencks.

Alfred Richards.

Frederick Sheey, Jr.

Charles Bump.

Nathan Sherman.

P. O. Address : Schroon Lake, Essex Co., N. Y.

LUZERNE GUIDES.

LAKE LUZERNE—LAKE GEORGE—SACANDAGA RIVER—NORTH
RIVER—STONY CREEK.

Duane Chadwick.

T. H. Taylor.

George Anderson.

George Clunia.

P. O. Address : Luzerne, Warren Co., N. Y.

INDIAN LAKE GUIDES.

INDIAN LAKE—LEWEY LAKE—CEDAR LAKES—CEDAR RIVER—
CHAIN LAKES—BOREAS RIVER—NEWCOMB LAKE—SNOWY
MOUNTAIN.

D. E. ("Rat") Farrington.

Fayette N. Weller.

Nathaniel Locke.

Marvin T. Locke.

Joseph Locke.

Orrin Cross.

Oscar Cross.

Dyer Daniels.

James Burke.

William Hutchins.

Thomas Savage.

William Starbuck.

Henry ("Comical") Brown.

Willard R. Locke.

Hosea G. Locke.

George Pashley.

Henry Aldrus.

Clarke Cross.

Herbert Farrington.

Philander Shaw.

Arvin Hutchins.

"Allie" Porter.

Chauncey Hill.

P. O. Address : Indian Lake, Hamilton Co., N. Y.

CEDAR RIVER GUIDES.

CEDAR RIVER—"HEADQUARTERS"—MOOSE LAKE—CEDAR LAKES—
INDIAN CLEARING—MOOSE RIVER—FULTON CHAIN—INDIAN
LAKE—SEVEN CHAIN LAKES.

Carlos Hutchins.

Edward Smith.

Frank Wood.

Edward Gerard.

George Raymore.

O. A. Cole, Jr.

P. O. Address : Indian Lake, Hamilton Co., N. Y.

MOOSE RIVER GUIDES ("KENWILL'S").

MOOSE LAKE—CEDAR RIVER—WAKELEY'S—CEDAR LAKES—
SOUTH BRANCH MOOSE RIVER—INDIAN CLEARING—FULTON
CHAIN—RAQUETTE LAKE—LONG LAKE—INDIAN LAKE.

Josiah Brown.

Joseph La Prairie.

George Raymond.

Henry Bennett.

P. O. Address : Indian Lake, Hamilton Co., N. Y.

LEWEY LAKE GUIDES.

LEWEY LAKE—INDIAN LAKE—CUNJAMUCK CREEK—CHAIN
LAKES—CEDAR RIVER—JESSUP RIVER—SNOWY MOUNTAIN.

James McCormic.

James Sturges.

John Sturges.

Hubert Danforth.

Frank Washburn.

Elmer Osgood.

P. O. Address : Indian Lake, Hamilton Co., N. Y.

NORTH RIVER GUIDES.

THIRTEENTH POND—INDIAN LAKE—CHAIN LAKES—LEWEY
LAKE—BOREAS RIVER.

Richard Burch.

Henry Straight.

Frank Maxam.

Warren Woodward.

J. C. Bennett.

P. O. Address : North River, Warren Co., N. Y.

LAKE PLEASANT GUIDES.

LAKE PLEASANT—SACANDAGA LAKE—PISECO AND OXBOW LAKES—
CEDAR LAKES—CANADA LAKES—CUNJAMUCK CREEK—JESSUP
RIVER—LEWEY LAKE.

Edwin Courtney.	Warren Courtney.
Chauncey Courtney.	Hugh Call.
Frederick Coughman.	George Burton.
Floyd Abrams.	David Abrams.
William Cole.	William N. Courtney.
Sealon Clark.	James Sturges.
Benajah Page.	Abram Lawrence.
Perry Page.	Ralph Page.

P. O. Address: Sageville, Hamilton Co., N. Y.

MOREHOUSE GUIDES.

WILMUT LAKE—PISECO LAKE—MOREHOUSE LAKE—CANADA
CREEKS—CEDAR LAKES—WOODHULL LAKES.

Theodore Raymond.	Henry Kreutzer.
Charles Hoffmeister.	

P. O. Address: Morehouseville, Hamilton Co., N. Y.

WOODHULL GUIDES.

MOOSE RIVER—WOODHULL AND BISBY LAKES—CANADA AND
CEDAR LAKES—INDIAN CLEARING—FULTON CHAIN—BIG
MOOSE.

George Parker.	John Commerford.
Edwin Turk.	L. O. Gardner.
William Stell.	H. L. Spinning.

P. O. Address: White Lake Corners, Oneida Co., N. Y.

BIG MOOSE GUIDES.

MOOSE RIVER—BIG MOOSE LAKE—TWITCHELL LAKE—BIG SAF-
FORD LAKE—INDEPENDENCE LAKE—FULTON CHAIN—QUEER
LAKE—RAQUETTE LAKE.

Richard Crago.	J. J. Rose.
T. J. Rose.	J. H. Higby.

William Dart.
Garrett Riggs.
Milo Ball.
Robert Roberts.

H. D. Groat.
Cyrus Wood.
William Ball.

P. O. Address: Big Moose, Herkimer Co., N. Y.

OTTER LAKE GUIDES.

OTTER LAKE—OTTER CREEK—INDEPENDENCE RIVER—INDEPENDENCE LAKE—MOOSE RIVER—BIG MOOSE LAKE—FULTON CHAIN—PINE LAKES—MIDDLE SETTLEMENT—BEAVER RIVER—SAFFORD POND—HITCHCOCK LAKE—FENTON'S.

Edward Kirschner.
James McConnell.

Charles M. Kirschner.

P. O. Address: Glendale, Lewis Co., N. Y.

FULTON CHAIN GUIDES.

MOOSE RIVER—FULTON CHAIN—BIG MOOSE LAKE—LIMEKILN LAKE—RAQUETTE LAKE—BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE—THE SARANAC—PAUL SMITH'S—FORKED LAKE—THE TUPPERS—BOTTLE POND.

Christopher Goodsell.
Frederick Hess.
Frank Sperry.
Samuel Dunakin.
Eugene Scrafford.
Augustus Syphert.
James Mucle.
Nicholas Weston.
Frederick Rivett.
Philip Christy.
Benjamin Parsons.
Charles Johnson.
Dennis Franla.
Alonzo Wood.
Arthur N. Church.
Cornelius Briggs.
Robert Dalton.
Archie Delmarsh.
Abner Blakeman.
Henry Hart.

George Goodsell,
Daniel Hess.
William Sperry.
Wellington Weedmark.
John Scrafford.
Ira Hart.
Frank Yule.
David Cherboneau.
Peter Rivett.
Ira Parsons.
Frank Joscelyn.
John Wheeler.
Edward Ball.
Oscar Wood.
William Wyman.
John Sprague.
Merrill White.
Frederick Blakeman.
Frank Barro.

P. O. Address: Old Forge, Herkimer Co., N. Y.

Destruction of Adirondack Timber by Insects.

Of the many elements at work tending to the destruction of our Northern Forest, the insect blight is one that has not received the attention which so serious a matter demands. A few years ago one-half or more of the large spruce in the Adirondacks was destroyed by an insect, or beetle. This destruction of the spruce had scarcely ceased when the tamarack was attacked, the damage to the latter being still more extensive, and involving almost the entire species. In the case of the spruce, it was estimated that about one-half of the standing timber was killed; but with the tamarack the loss is practically a total one. The spruce blight has been mentioned in previous reports of this Department. We refer to it again, in connection with the loss of the tamarack, in order to better discuss the entire subject and certain questions growing out of it.

The decay of the spruce, so prevalent in late years throughout the Great Forest, has entirely ceased. Twelve years ago the reddish tinge of the foliage on the blighted trees could be seen in most any part of the wilderness, giving to some of the hill-sides and mountain slopes an appearance resembling that of a forest which had been scorched or killed by fire. This discoloration of the spruce leaves is no longer noticeable. Most of the trees which were killed have fallen. Here and there some of the dead trees are still standing, bare and leafless, but nearly hidden in the foliage of the forest.

The spruce blight seems to have commenced, or to have been noticed first, in 1862. It spread through the entire wilderness, but was particularly destructive in 1878. The value of the property can not be stated definitely, but it would reach an immense amount.* Mr. Pringle, in his report on the Forests of

*Tenth Census, United States; Vol. IX, p. 506: Report on Forestry: Professor Charles S. Sargent.

Northern New York, states "that from one-third to one-half of the fully-grown spruce timber left in the Adirondack Region is dead." As he had already estimated the spruce in the Adirondacks at 5,000,000,000 feet in the aggregate, it will be seen that the value of the timber lost was something appalling. While we can not fully agree with Mr. Pringle as to the alarming extent of the spruce blight, it is evident that there was an immense destruction of property and a serious loss to the State.

The death of the spruce in the Adirondacks has been attributed to various causes. One authority states as a reason that it is not a long-lived tree, and that these dead spruces were matured trees which, having reached the limits of their natural existence, succumbed to the first unusual or severe visitation of nature, such as an intensely cold winter or a late spring frost.

Others, after making a study of the matter, were positive that it was due to an unusually severe summer's drought, unmindful of the fact that the blight killed the spruce in the wet swamps as well as on the dry slopes.

Others claim, with good reasons, that it was due to the ravages of a bark-mining or tree-boring beetle—the *Dendroctonus rufipennis*. Dr. J. A. Lintner, our State Entomologist, and Prof. C. H. Peck, State Botanist, hold stoutly to the latter idea. A full account of this remarkable blight, together with exhaustive articles on the cause, by Dr. Lintner and Prof. Peck, will be found in the annual report of the Forest Commission for 1885.

The tamarack blight is of more recent occurrence, the disease having reached its culmination during the present year. The destruction of this tree was also caused by an insect. It is known as the saw-fly, the *Nematus Erichsonii*.

Dr. J. A. Lintner, in a report on the Injurious Insects of New York,* says:

"The larch saw-fly is a recently introduced pest, having been brought from Europe, it is believed, into Massachusetts not long prior to the year 1880, on some European larches. It has displayed a disposition for rapid distribution, as it has, within the decade, spread and carried its ravages

* Fifth Report on the Injurious and other Insects of the State of New York, made to the Regents of the University, by J. A. Lintner, Ph. D., State Entomologist, Albany: 1890.

over a large part of New England, Canada, and the State of New York. It will in the near future probably extend its range over all that portion of the country where its food plant, the larch, occurs. Originally feeding in Germany on the *Larix Europæa*, it seems to have found our native species, *Larix Americana*, commonly known as the tamarack or hackmatack, particularly adapted to its tastes, as shown in the havoc which it inflicts in the tamarack swamps of New York and New England.

"For the present it will suffice to say that the parent saw-fly emerging from her cocoon in the month of May, probably not long thereafter resorts to the larches and inserts its oval, cylindrical eggs, according to Dr. Packard, in two rows of incisions in the terminal shoot or one of the side shoots, causing a twisting and deformity therein from the presence and growth of the eggs. The larvæ, hatching in June, mature rapidly, 'in from five to seven days, or not more than ten,' when they descend from the trees and inclose themselves within their elongate oval cocoons beneath moss or other convenient shelter. This occurs the last of June or in early July, in New York. They remain unchanged within the cocoon during the winter and assume the pupal form the following spring, as is the habit of many of the *Tenthredinidæ*.

"Ratzeburg, in his celebrated work on Forest Insects, notices the occurrence of this insect in Germany and in other parts of Europe. It had appeared on the larch in the Hartz Mountains and in the plains of Holstein, in sufficient numbers to attract the attention of forestry officers, and it was feared that it might become injurious. According to Dr. Hagen, it had only been observed as obnoxious to the larch twice before 1840, and was very rare in Europe. It was not among the extensive collections of European insects brought thence by him to the Cambridge Museum.

"In the year 1880, Professor C. S. Sargent, Director of the Arnold Arboretum at Brookline, Mass., discovered larvæ feeding upon some European larches, *Larix Europæa*, growing in the vicinity. They were submitted to Dr. Hagen, of the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Cambridge, and identified by him, from the description and figures of Ratzeburg, as *Nematus Erichsonii* Hartig. This is the first record of the appearance of this saw-fly in this country, which soon thereafter developed destructive powers entirely foreign to its European character.

"It is reported as having been injurious to larches in the State of Maine, in 1881, and in 1882, its operations were observed by Dr. Packard, during the month of August, in the vicinity of Brunswick, Me., as detailed in his 'First Report on the Destruction of Evergreen Forests in Northern New England.' The same year it also appeared in New Hampshire.

Its Occurrence in New York.

"The following year (1883) about July twenty-fifth and early in August the effects of the insect were observed at Horicon and Pottersville, Warren county, and at Schroon Lake in Essex county. By the first of August the trees had been defoliated. The region affected was very

extensive, covering many square miles in different swamps. It was also reported 'from Schroon Lake to North Elba and about Mount Marcy.' (Packard.)

"During the years 1884, 1885, and 1886, the same attack upon the larches, or tamaracks, as they are more generally called, was observed by State Botanist Peck, in several of the counties of Northern New York.

"June 29, 1887, larva of this species were received for name from Dr. E. L. Sturtevant of the State Agricultural Experiment Station, which had been sent to him by Mr. E. Phelps of De Kalb Junction, St. Lawrence County. When the package was opened the following day, one of the larva had already inclosed itself in its cocoon. It is believed that this is the earliest recorded date of larval maturity. The following notice taken from the St. Lawrence Republican of July 27, 1887, will give some idea of the immense number in which the "worm" made its appearance:

"Mr. David Page of Jerusalem Corners, in this town, has given us an account of a remarkable pest of worms which recently infested his premises. There are three larch or tamarack trees growing in his door-yard. About July seventh, very soon after the extremely hot weather set in, a few worms appeared upon them, feeding upon the leaves. The next day they had doubled in number, and in a day or two had become a countless host, completely covering the trees, so that the end of the finger could not be placed even on the trunk of one of them without touching one or more of the worms. They also covered apple and maple trees and shrubbery, and the grass beneath, but ate nothing, so far as could be discovered, except the leaves of the tamaracks. They swarmed upon the house and piazza, and it became necessary to sweep them from the latter every few minutes. They accumulated in little windrows along by the house. The countless hordes of worms became an object of great curiosity and interest to people of the neighborhood, and Mr. Page and his family became really alarmed as to the result of this invasion; but in scarcely a week from the time of their first appearance they disappeared as rapidly as they had come, and in a day or two none of them were to be found. The tamaracks were left as bare as in winter, but no other signs of damage were visible. Whether the worms had gone into the ground or what had become of them seems not to have been ascertained."

"Other examples of the larva and two of the cocoons were received by the State Entomologist, July ninth, from Rev. Henry U. Swinnerton, of Cherry Valley. He has kindly furnished, on request, some observations made by him, extracts from which are herewith given, as showing interesting habits of migration, etc., of the larvae, when occurring on isolated trees. Under date of July ninth, he wrote:

"I send you specimens of a worm that has appeared in considerable numbers on a larch tree on the lawn of Mr. Lansing, my neighbor. They began dropping off in a pattering shower, and are migrating toward some maples not far off."

"Additional particulars of the migration were furnished under date of July twelfth:

"The larch saw-fly worm seems to have disappeared, and within a very limited distance from the tree from which they started. They crept in an easterly direction diagonally toward the street, about thirty feet from the tree. Several maples in the track were invaded. Salt

was strewn on the flagstones to kill them, but many reached the maples outside. I do not find that a single one crossed the road. Where they disappeared to I can not imagine.

"I know of but four larches about the village—two of them fine, good-sized trees. Of two smaller ones, one quite small, had some of the worms upon it, and the foliage shows that it had been eaten, but only a little. The other is embowered among maples, and does not seem to show any injury. But the two large trees are very much stripped, only a few of the lower branches retaining any foliage. The second of them is on Miss Roseboom's place. * * * * *

In this case, also, the worms crept in an easterly direction, going up a pine, some hemlocks, and a horse chestnut—'millions of them,' as I am told."

"I had a man climb both the larch and a maple at Mr. Lansing's in search of the saw-flies, but he could find hardly one. We then began to discover apparently dead ones, then a few living ones. But it seemed surprising that so few should be discoverable. Further search revealed more living ones just beneath the ground and among the moss at the roots of the tree, especially under the larch. Finally, we were led to conclude that the brown cocoons, of which there seemed to be a great number, must belong to them."

"The following paragraph from the Country Gentleman of July 14, 1887, refers, without doubt, to the operations of the larch saw-fly larva.

"The tamarack trees in this section are infested with multitudes of rather small, green worms with black heads, which are stripping them of their foliage.—Sharon Centre. N. Y., July 8, 1887."

"Personal Observations in Hamilton County.

"During a visit to the southern portion of the Adirondack region, July fourteenth to August fifth, the opportunity was offered of making a few observations on this insect. The season at this time was too far advanced to note the attack either at its commencement or its height. All of the larches within sight of the stage route from Newton's Corners, at the foot of Lake Pleasant, to Sageville at its head, a distance of four miles, had been almost entirely stripped at the earliest date above named. The trees of this species, of which there are many, in some places it being the prevailing growth, could be recognized at the greatest distance from which they could be seen by their nakedness, appearing as if dead, which, undoubtedly some of them were, as the result of previous defoliation. The elevation above tide of Lake Pleasant is 1,800 feet.

"No information could be obtained of residents of the time when the injury to the larches had first been noticed. To many it seemed quite new when their attention was, at this time, called to it, although it might probably have been observed during the two or three preceding summers.

"Very few of the larvae were to be found on the trees on the nineteenth July, and as most of these were apparently but about half-grown, and of a pale green color, as if recently molted, it is not improbable that they were belated, sickly, or parasitized individuals which were destined not to attain maturity.

"Not all of the larches in the vicinity had been wholly stripped. A large one of eighteen inches in diameter at three feet from the ground and reaching upward to a height of at least seventy feet, standing alone

in a pasture lot, and throwing out long and thick branches, had its foliage less than one-half eaten. From a large number of larches of a moderate height — of fifteen feet and under — that were entirely free from harm, it appeared that the younger trees were not sought by the parent saw-fly for oviposition. Whenever they had been eaten, they were in the immediate vicinity of larger trees, which, having been stripped, the migrants from them, in their search for food, may have been able to ascend, with difficulty, in small numbers, such of the smaller ones as chanced to be in their way. The tips of these small larches, gave no evidence of oviposition in them. * * * * *

"In August, the larches observed in the Lake Pleasant region which, during the preceding month, had been entirely denuded, had commenced to put forth new leaves. This was probably the second year's defoliation of many of the trees. It is doubtful whether they would be able to survive the repetition of the injury for another year. In Maine and Canada, where the insect has prevailed quite generally since 1884, the larches over large areas have been killed, and it is the opinion of foresters that the entire loss of the foliage in early summer, for three consecutive years, proves fatal with very few exceptions.

"The addition to our list of insect pests of one which threatens the entire destruction of a tree so valuable as the larch, can not be regarded otherwise than in the light of a serious calamity. It would appear, at the present, that this evil is destined to become more general than the destruction of the spruce (the timber of which is of so great economic importance in many localities in Northern New York, for the latter, as yet, is but a local (?) disease, and may, therefore, prove, when satisfactorily accounted for, to be the result of purely local causes. There is hardly a doubt but that the range of this new pest will be almost co-extensive with that of the larch, viz., over a large portion of the northern United States, and adjoining British possessions, even into the Arctic region.

"The wood of the larch is given by Prof. Sargent as 'heavy, hard, very strong, dural contact with the soil; preferred and largely used for the upper knees of vessels, for ship timbers, fence posts, telegraph poles, railway ties, etc.' L'Abbe Provancher, in his notice of the larch saw-fly, above cited, in which he regards it as threatening the entire disappearance of this precious tree of the Canadian forests, since from the first notice of the insect in America in 1880, it had already, in the year 1885, spread with such remarkable rapidity and destructiveness, that 'from Halifax to Ottawa, and perhaps even beyond, there is not to be seen in July and August a single larch having its foliage intact,' — has written as follows of this tree and its value:

"It is known that this tree grows in wet or marshy lands, where the soil ordinarily is of poor quality. Among its roots, which it sends out horizontally at a moderate distance from the surface of the ground, there is always to be found, on one side or the other, one that is much larger than the others. It is often said that this tree has but a single root, the others being only ramifications of it. As this root forms a slight angle with the trunk, and as the wood is very strong, very slightly brittle, and almost free from decay, it is the prized source for the elbows and knees

that enter into naval constructions. In addition to its being an excellent fuel, this wood is also desirable for a multitude of uses, as for boat-bottoms, joists for buildings, fence-posts, etc. The larch forms also a very handsome ornamental tree; its elliptical cones of about an inch in length, of a beautiful purplish-violet shade, and ordinarily a great number on the same tree, give a charming effect, when, in June, they join themselves to the delicate foliage, simulating fringes or sparkling bouquets of so lively a green that the sun seems powerless to change it. And, besides the graceful picture that it presents, the tree perfumes all its surroundings with a resinous odor which is most agreeable.

"Remedies.

"When the larch occurs as isolated trees or in groups of moderate extent, it is an easy task to save its foliage from destruction by the saw-fly larva. The attack of its hosts is quickly noticeable, and if they are then shaken or beaten from the branches they may be crushed under foot or with a roller. Of those that may escape very few will succeed in ascending the trunk, since although the *Nematus* larva is bountifully provided with legs, having twenty, while most of the caterpillars of butterflies and moths have but sixteen, yet these organs are not developed to the extent of making them suitable for easy climbing. Or, the worms may be killed by spraying the foliage with Paris green or London purple in water, according to directions so often given.

"When large areas of the larch are infested, as tamarack swamps, it will be useless to attempt to compete with the enemy. Its destruction through any applications that might be made would be altogether too costly to warrant the outlay required. The best that could be done in such cases would be to fell the trees as soon as it is noticed that they are dead or doomed, and before decay has impaired their value, and use them for some of the many purposes for which the timber is available."

The prediction thus made by the State Entomologist, four years ago, has unfortunately proved true. Throughout the entire wilderness the tamarack has been destroyed. Occasional exceptions may be seen in isolated trees standing by roadsides or in dooryards. Here and there, also, are groups of young trees, mere saplings, which, as yet, are untouched, noticeably so along the hilly road between Saranac Village and Lake Placid. But, in the swamps, on the low grounds, and along the streams, the natural abode of the species, the pest has done its fatal work completely. It is a pity; for the tamarack, although not classed with our merchantable species, was a pleasing feature of our Northern woods, with its graceful form and peculiar tint of green. In fall, the rich lemon color of its leaves was no less attractive, for it was the one deciduous conifer of our Adirondack Forest.

We have dwelt on this matter at some length, not because an insect blight is pertinent to this report—it being within the province of another department—but because the forest conditions resulting from it give rise to an important question in forest management. The Legislature wisely enacted that this dead timber should be sold and the revenue from it applied to the purchase of forest lands. This dead tamarack has recently been in active demand for railroad ties, fuel, and other purposes. Furthermore, it should be cut, whenever a sale can be made, not so much on account of its unsightly appearance, but because the removal of the dry, dead timber, lessens the danger from fire. Formerly the green tamarack swamps interposed an effectual barrier to the progress of a forest fire; now they only offer fresh fuel to facilitate its progress. If this dead timber were sold and removed the forest would be vastly improved, to say nothing of the revenue derived. But the stupid, senseless clamor has been raised that not a tree shall be cut. Until the public can be better educated in matters pertaining to this branch of forest management it would be folly to attempt any other policy.

We have appended, in a second volume, a compendium of all the laws and legislation affecting the forests, streams, dams, roads, railroads, land-grants, and private preserves in the Adirondack Region, from the beginning of the State to the present time, covering the period from 1774 to 1894. The need of such a volume for a reference work has long been apparent. We trust that the members of your honorable body will also find it a valuable aid in matters pertaining to Adirondack legislation.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

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SAMUEL J. TILDEN,
CLARKSON C. SCHUYLER,
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Commissioners.

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